Institutional Laundry

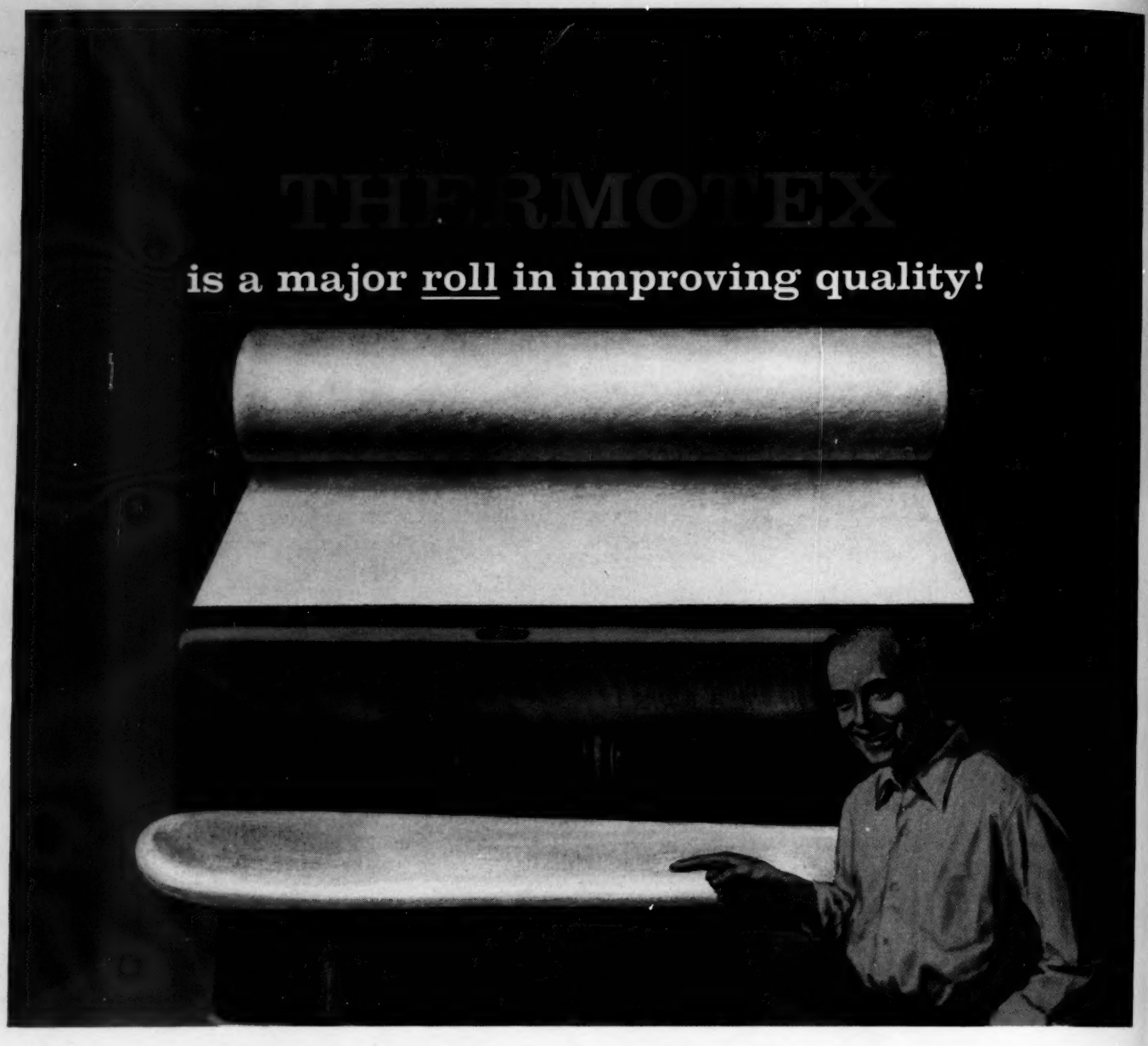
the magazine for the institutional laundry manager

HOW TO FIGHT STAPH INFECTION BY MAKING LINENS BACTERIA-STATIC 14
Simple Water Tests to Gauge Hardness and the pH Factor 18
Results of Year-long Tests on the Use of Colored Linens in Hotels 22

JULY, 1958

THERMOTEX

is a major roll in improving quality!



THERMOTEX cover cloth wears twice as long as other cover cloths...means less time and labor required, longer life for padding. Infrequent changes mean more savings for you!

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Best of all, THERMOTEX increases production on your presses because of its faster-drying, heat-conducting qualities. It will not slip or shrink...needs no breaking-in period...is available in rolls at a savings.

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Have you tried the new long-wearing, anti-static cover cloth ACROTEX for your flatwork ironers?

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H. Kohnstamm & Co., Inc.

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linens look nifty

and new AD-DRI Bleach is thrifty

Assure longer linen life with Ad-Dri Bleach. Ad-Dri, for dry addition to the laundry washer, simplifies the bleach operation—and it maintains maximum whiteness, with minimum tensile strength loss.

With Ad-Dri, you have no annoying bleach solution preparation; no testing of the bleach solution before you use it; no waste, no mistakes. Controlled bleaching is the secret. Ad-Dri is the *right* bleach, in the *right* amount, in the *right* strength every time. And Ad-Dri is easy to use—no mixing, no messing, no spilling.

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INDUSTRIAL CHEMICALS DIVISION • BALTIMORE 3, MD.
Ad-Dri® is a trademark

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- is added dry to the bleach suds
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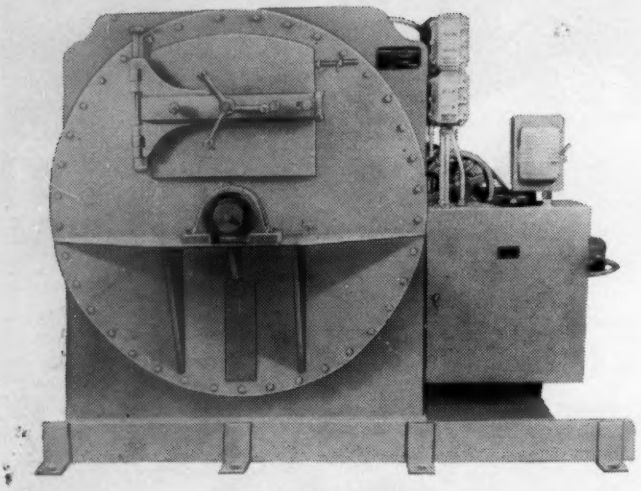
"The Workhorse"



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WASHER-EXTRACTORS

- Heavy Duty Air Clutch and Air Brake...Self Adjusting...Same Type Used on Airplanes and Heavy Industrial Equipment
- All Components....Standard Parts Easily Obtained When Replacements are Required
- All Motors, Switches, Air Cylinders are UL approved for Dry Cleaning Units
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- In Laundry Units, Entire Cylinder and Shell Sheets are made of Stainless Steel
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Institutional Laundry

the magazine for the institutional laundry manager

QUARTERLY VOLUME 2 • NUMBER 3

HOW YOU CAN FIGHT STAPH INFECTION
With staphylococcus aureus an increasing threat in hospitals, the LM must find a way to keep his linens contamination-free. Here is a method successfuly tested in one of the country's top hospitals 14

USE COSTLY PERCALES—AND SAVE MONEY
The cheapest to buy, isn't always the least expensive in use, says Sister Mary Celeste, St. Mary's Hospital. She proves by facts and figures that in the long run luxury percale sheets are less costly than cheaper muslin 16

HOW TO MAKE SIMPLE WATER TESTS
Water is the LM's top weapon in his battle against soiled linen. Here are simple tests you can make to assure that your wash water is in tiptop shape 18

ARE COLORED LINENS PRACTICAL?
An American Hotel Association test in 12 hotels for a year's time, revealed that colored linens are easy to handle, no problem to wash and do not fade appreciably 22

HOW TO KEEP WASHING COST DOWN
An air-tight system of control, plus tested formulas, enables the Maryland Penitentiary laundry to trim washing costs to the bone 28

HOW TO SORT PATIENTS' PERSONAL CLOTHES
A visible file and two sets of bins working in tandem, have helped Northville State hospital cut sorting time in half and save time and labor 32

TIPS BY QUINN
Five bread and butter tips that will help you save time, money and labor 36

PRECISION COST CONTROL
James Mahoney, LM of Mass. General Hosptial, in this his second IL appearance, shows how his tight control set-up saved his laundry $51,000 last year .. 38

HOW TO "CREATE" SPACE FOR A LAUNDRY
The Woodner of Washington, D. C., had 200 rooms but no space for a laundry—it thought. Here's how space was found and a plant set up at a minimum cost 42

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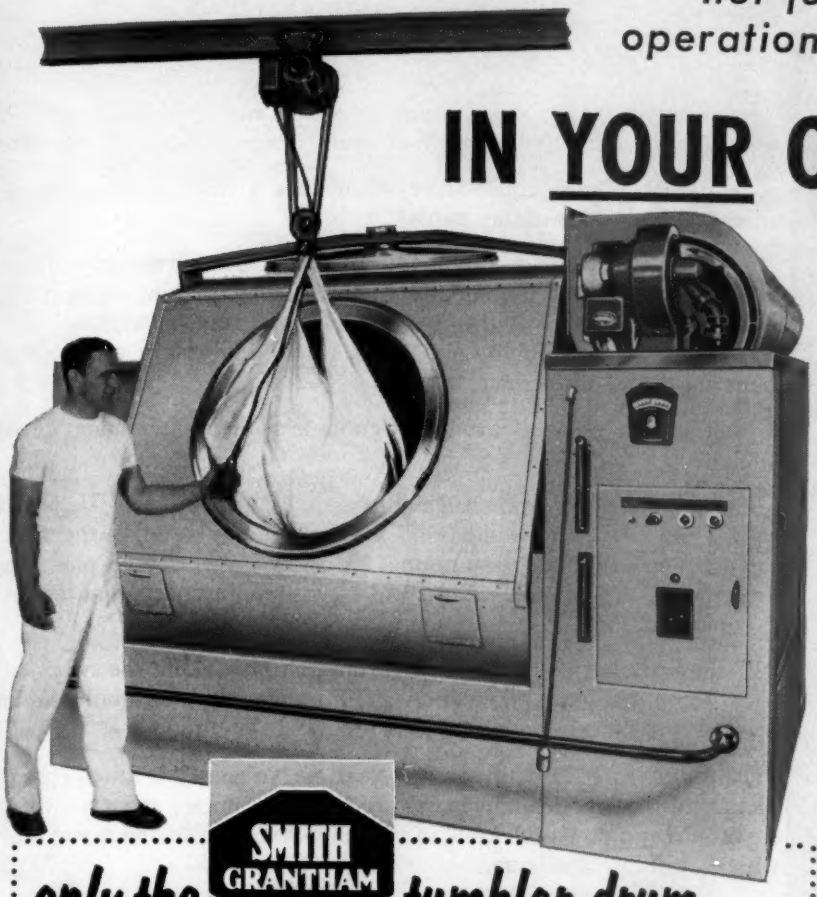
time saving SLING LOADING

not just in second floor operations, but . . .

IN YOUR OPERATION



• Overhead rails carry loads right out of the extractors into the drum opening of the revolutionary new Smith-Grantham drying tumbler. Only Smith-Grantham's drum tilts back 23° to make this possible . . . *now*, even one floor operations can have fast overhead loading. All the usual extra handling between extractor and drying tumblers is eliminated. Overhead type door swings up and out of the way, hugging the tumbler . . . requiring no aisle space at any time. Aisles stay clear for action with no traffic jams because *no loading carts are needed.*

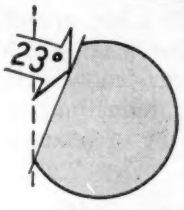
Other exclusive Smith-Grantham advantages include automatic operation through push button controls and dual purpose timer that protects starched goods — allows desired shake out time *before* heat enters basket — saves up to 20% in fuel costs during complete drying operations . . . lift up sampling window . . . top located burner that saves 20 sq. ft. of floor space usually needed when burners are located on the floor. No other tumbler does so much for you.

Available with Gas, Oil, Steam or Gas-Oil Combination Heat

Write or phone for details

SMITH GRANTHAM

only the tumbler drum tilts back 23°



• Low pivot point tilts drum back 23° for fast *"drop in" loading* from monorail carried slings.

• Drum tilts forward and down for 8 second unloading. Patented basket projects beyond housing (no open space between revolving basket and stationary housing) so that material can't catch or tear while being unloaded.

THIS TUMBLER DOES THE WORK OF 3!

customers report — "conditions 3,000 lbs. (dry weight) or completely dries 1,000 lbs. hourly."

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Institutional Laundry

the magazine for the institutional laundry manager

VOLUME 2 • NUMBER 3

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Happy Birthday

INSTITUTIONAL LAUNDRY is one year old, and we'd like to thank our readers for the hundreds of congratulatory cards we've received.

"Hundreds?" you say. "Since when does a trade publication receive hundreds of birthday cards?"

Well, we did. We say this because we consider all the letters sent us throughout the year thanking us for articles, making suggestions about ways to improve the magazine, asking advice, etc., as in a sense congratulatory messages. They reveal interest in and excitement about the publication.

And as we say, there have been hundreds of them—abundant cause for rejoicing.

To be honest, we were confident when the first issue of IL rolled off the press, that it would fulfill a long-standing need in the field. Devoted exclusively to institutional plants, it could devote plenty of time and effort to tracking down and exploring all aspects that urgently concerned LMs.

We say we felt this. But we had no idea how acute the need had been for a national publication until the batches of mail started flooding the office.

And looking back over our first year, we've gained a much clearer picture of the laundry managers' needs. You can see what we mean if you just run down the table of contents in this issue and compare it with that of our first issue.

Our first issue had a single "How to . . ." feature. In this current one we have four—almost half of the editorial material.

Why? Because we found from talking with LMs, attending their meetings, speaking to administrators, that the average LM is not satisfied with himself. He's not a complacent fellow. He is constantly searching for ways to improve his production, to cut his costs. In a word, his primary concern is to be of better service to his institution.

And our primary concern is to be of better service to you, so keep sending us your comments, your suggestions, your questions. And whether it's praise or criticism, the more we receive the happier we are. They're our birthday cards because they help us to be of greater value to you.

Len Fiddle

editor

Here's why the

HUEBSCH "37"

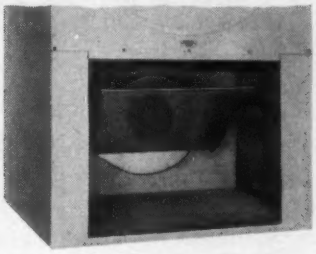
STEAM-HEATED LAUNDRY

TUMBLER IS YOUR BEST BUY!

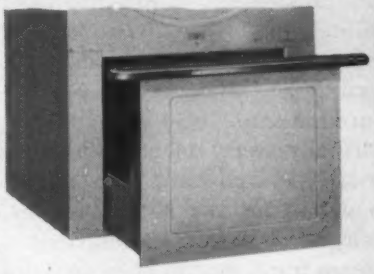
Huebsch "37" uses combination belt and chain drive because it's quieter and more dependable than ordinary gear-reducer drives.

Adjust the damper to hot (or any intermediate) position, and set the timer. When the load is dried, signal indicates that load is now running in cool air, ready to be removed.

• Famous for good looks and dependability, the Huebsch "37" has added exclusive new features which make it an even better buy for your money! Available in three sizes . . . 37"x18", 37"x24", 37"x30". Choice of *any* color at no extra cost. Find out why the Huebsch "37" Steam-Heated Tumbler is America's big favorite. Get the complete story from your Huebsch distributor . . . or write to



Greatest dryer improvement in years! New, self-cleaning lint screen deposits lint into drawer automatically, no scraping, (Patent applied for).



The new lint drawer has extra-large capacity. It is easy to clean and requires only occasional emptying.

HUEBSCH ORIGINATORS 3775 N. HOLTON STREET MILWAUKEE 1, WISCONSIN

WORLD'S LARGEST MANUFACTURER OF COMMERCIAL TUMBLER-DRYERS

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Coast to Coast

NAILM Constitution

The NAILM News notes that President Cullen is about to appoint a committe to study the association's constitution and by-laws. The purpose is to make recommendations for whatever revisions the committee believes necessary before the next conference. Also noted in the issue is that vp Nelson Smith, represented NAILM at the LCATA convention in Sun Valley, Idaho, recently.

Southern Michigan Gathering

Out in the midwest the Southern Michigan Association enjoyed a rousing meeting before the summer recess. Les Brown of the Revolite Co. spoke to members on the problems of flatwork ironers and how to correct them; Chet Harger of Michigan State University announced the program and speakers for the annual laundry conference to be held at the university in October, and a new color film, "Assignment—Health Team" was screened. The film showed all departments and phases of work in the hospital.

New York Sockdolager

The Metropolitan Association's last official meeting of the season proved one of the most stimulating of the year. The topic was "Factors Affecting Flatwork and Press Production," and before the smoke had cleared away virtually every member and almost all allied tradesmen present had had his say about padding, pressure, rolling, maintenance, steam traps, etc. So engrossed did the members become in the subject that the meeting ran way overtime. Plans were announced at the gathering for the June social, which also proved a rousing affair with over 100 members, wives and allied tradesmen livening the proceedings.

Festivities in New England

The Connecticut and Western Mass. association went all out with its annual dinner, entertainment and installation of officers at the Hawthorne Inn to wind up one of the most successful sea-

sons. Shown here, from left to right, are the association's new officers: Francis Parsisson, secy.; Charles Wallace, pres.; Gerald Meunier, vp, and William McComb, treas. MC at the affair was Meyer Franzman. Wayne Newlove, former vp of the group, told us that among the most useful meetings held during the year were those on washroom chemistry, pH, titration, chemical analyses of soaps, etc. Demonstrations and question and answer sessions made these gatherings doubly valuable. Incidentally, Newlove is the new manager of Laundry Services at the Fairfield State Hospital taking over after the tragic death of Richard Sperling. Newlove had previously been with VA hospitals for 18½ years.

San Francisco Highlights

The Western Association's meeting, held in the Golden Gate City was held just after our last issue went to press so we couldn't at that time give more than a brief summary of the program. It turns out to have been one of the top larger gatherings of the year. At some of the sessions attendance ran so high that conventioneers had to be turned away. Some of the topics covered and speakers, included: reps from the Patek Co. giving technical advice on washroom practices and aids for flatwork ironers and presses; Walter Thurston, director of Buildings and Grounds; Emanuel

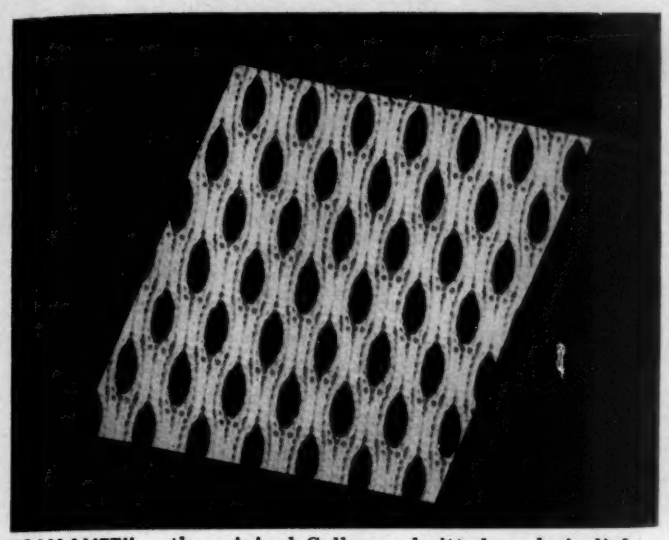
continued on page 48

Special Lunch for Ohio LMs

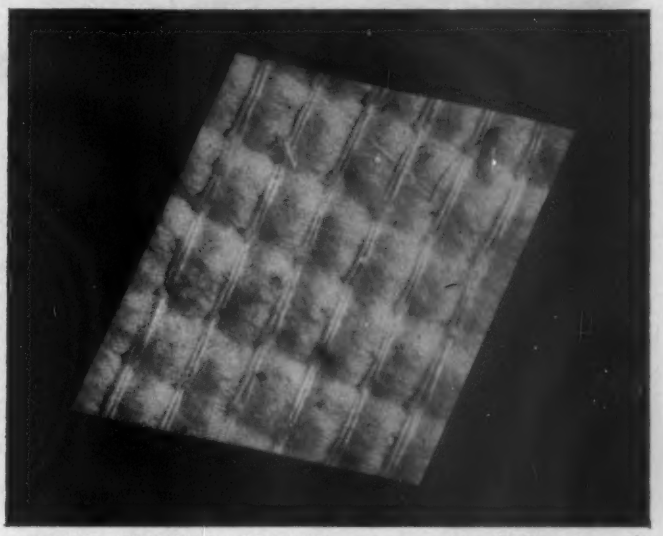
Visiting LMs and maintenance engineers of the plant and maintenance section of the Ohio Hospital Association, enjoy a special lunch given in their honor by the American Laundry Machy. Co. The lunch took place at the association's recent convention in Cincinnati. In addition to lunch the group saw American equipment being assembled during a guided tour of the company's plant and general offices. Later the LMs saw American's latest motion picture, "Within These Doors," a dramatic presentation of the laundry's importance to the proper functioning of every department in a hospital.

Your most dependable workers—for performance, for profits

ROCKWEAVE-THE COMPLETE

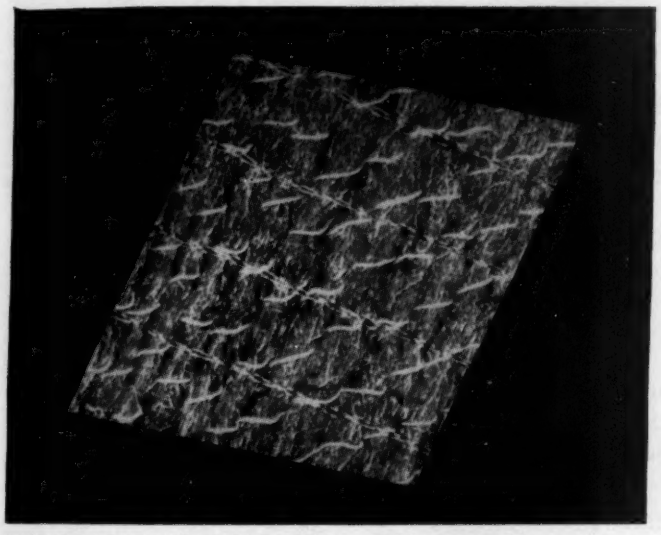


"CALLANET"... the original Callaway knitted mesh, in light and heavy weights, made of super-strong nylon yarns. Gives whiter loads quicker, faster! Priced right for all qualities.

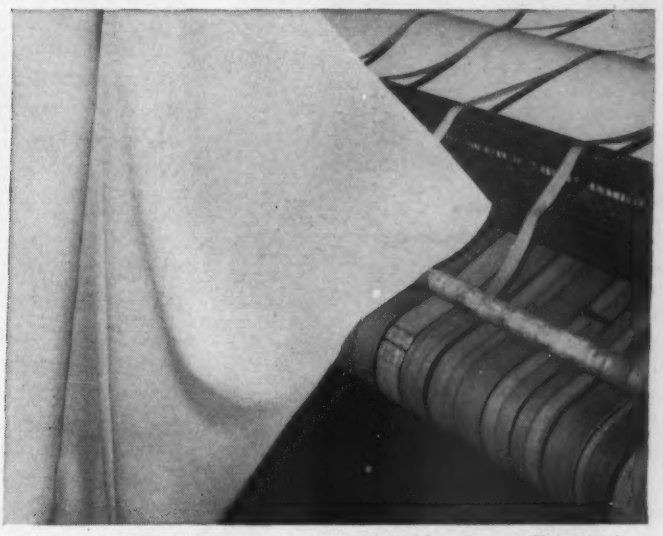


BLENDED ASBESTOS PADDING... a superior Callaway padding of asbestos and cotton. Doubly absorbent, doubly buoyant, doubly efficient. Available in three thicknesses.

LAUNDRY TEXTILE LINE FOR



KNITTED STEEL WOOL PADDING... Callaway's advanced new padding that meets the need for hotter rolls, quicker drying. Insures increased production and longer padding life.



NEW DACRON DUCK . . . strong, long-lasting roll covering for any type ironer rolls and presses. Assures quality results. Available in both light and heavy weights.

ALL YOUR LAUNDRY NEEDS!

ENGINEERED . . . TESTED . . . PROVED BEST! *It pays you to deal with the leader!* Callaway Mills sets the pace in the laundry industry with top quality, specially engineered textiles that help you reach peak efficiency in your operation. Everything you need for speedier, easier laundry production . . . perfect finished results, you get with these fine ROCKWEAVE products. For greater strength, better performance, bigger savings in time, labor and money . . . turn to ROCKWEAVE, the one source for all your laundry textiles.

Callaway Mills INC.

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Chicago 54 · Boston 11 · Detroit 1 · Atlanta 3 · Akron 8

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Towel Ensembles · Rugs and Carpets

Laundry Textiles · Terry Mats

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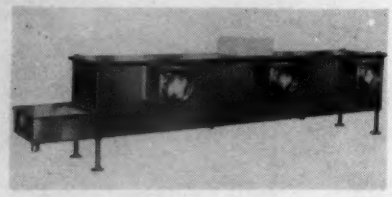
Products Parade

(Circle appropriate key numbers on Readers Service Card for more information)

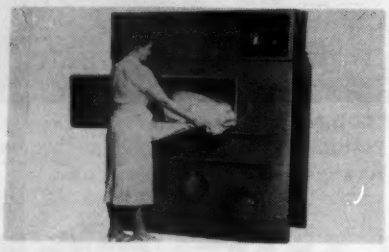
Lint Trap



Elimination of a fire hazard plus maintaining maximum dryer efficiency, are claimed for the new model Olson patented water-operated lint trap acquired by the Laundry Equipment Division of *Techtmann Industries*. Lint removal as high as 95 per cent has been reported in hospital and other institutional laundries. The lint is trapped and removed by water, ridding the area around the laundry of the problem of dry lint littering surfaces. Driers will always operate at top efficiency because no screens or filters block up and slow down the flow of air through them. The trap can be placed on the floor or wall or suspended from the ceiling or roof.

CIRCLE 51 ON READERS INQUIRY CARD

Automatic Washer-Extractor



A new automatic washer-extractor is the *Bill Glover, Inc.'s* contribution to mechanizing the industry. The machine, available in 50, 100 and 200 pound capacities, is said to have been improved in nine vital ways over the company's 1957 model. Its cylinder diameter has been increased 50 per cent, floor space has been cut almost in half, the cylinder shaft is now 30 per cent larger, and other important engineering advances have been made. The machine is said to cut labor and fuel costs considerably and to increase production.

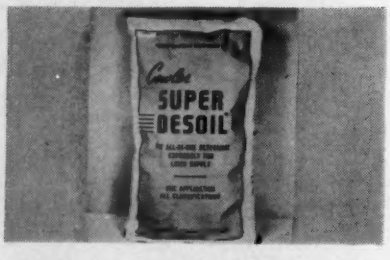
CIRCLE 52 ON READERS INQUIRY CARD

New Plastic Bleach Tanks

Lightweight, unbreakable bleach tanks of tough plastic are the newest addition to *Messe Inc.'s* Shamrock line. These tanks, according to Meese, offer many advantages over heavy clay crocks. They last many times longer, hold their shape permanently and never leak. No drain is needed since a filled tank is light enough to pick up and empty. The plastic is said to be impervious to one and two per cent solutions and 15 per cent concentrate. Sizes: 20, 30 gal.

CIRCLE 53 ON READERS INQUIRY CARD

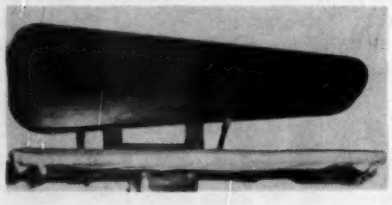
New Detergent



A new complete detergent, named Super Desoil, has been formulated by the *Cowles Chemical Co.* specifically for laundering linens. According to the firm, it has excellent stain and soil removing capacity. It will saponify and emulsify animal fats, vegetable oils, greases, etc. Another feature of importance is its fast rinsing that cuts down formula time. The company points out that by using the all-in-one detergent, the entire washing process is simplified and speeded up.

CIRCLE 54 ON READERS INQUIRY CARD

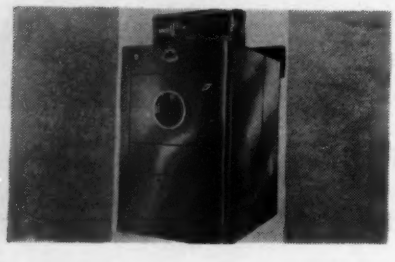
Resurfacing Press Bucks



The MW Protective Coating Division of *Metalweld, Inc.* has recently developed a method to restore the surface of aluminum or cast iron press bucks damaged by constant contact with zippers, buttons, grippers, etc. A hard non-rusting alloy is applied to the buck and ground to a smooth finish to provide a long-wearing surface that will not become pitted or dented. It is said to be harder than the original.

CIRCLE 55 ON READERS INQUIRY CARD

Washer-Extractor Combo

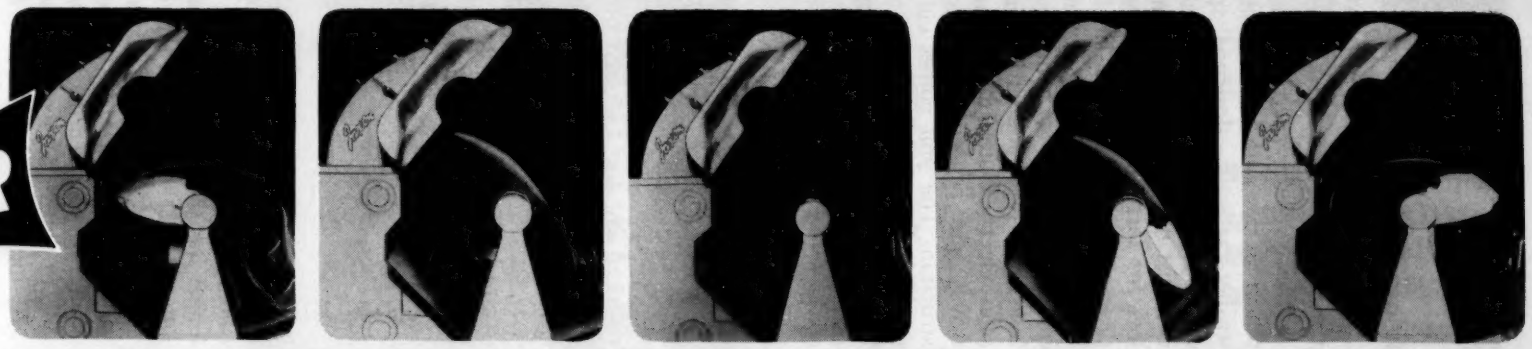


The *Hammond Laundry Cleaning Machy. Co.* has put its new WEL-20 laundry washer-extractor on the market. The 20-pound combo features stainless steel construction, full drop and mechanical washing action. The unit is said to deliver maximum extracting performance and operates free of vibration. It is completely automatic in operation, is an open pocket type and requires no dividing or weighing loads. It does not need a special foundation slab or bolting down.

CIRCLE 56 ON READERS INQUIRY CARD

continued on page 10

THE FANTASTIC LAYMAKER



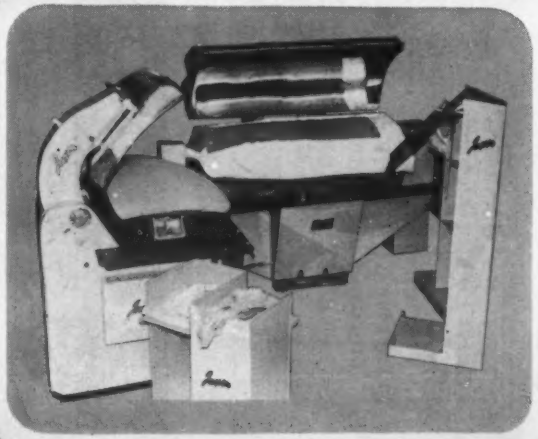
1. The operator, standing comfortably upright, places the right coat front on the buck and smooths it out.
2. When the buck rises after pressing the first lay, the hot surface of the buck turns away from the operator, and the machine makes the back lay of the coat. The operator merely smooths out, with no lifting and repositioning, no handling, over a hot buck.
3. One way the buck, as it turns, automatically makes the back lay.
4. A further 180° turn of the buck lays the remaining coat front.
5. The operator smooths out and, after pressing, the buck turns again, shedding the coat. All pressing operations are automatically timed.

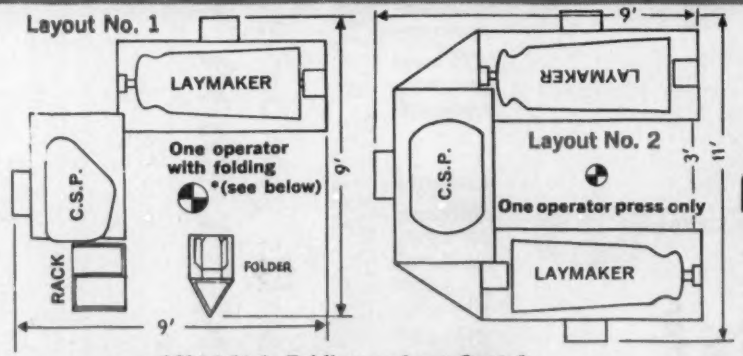
Finishes All These Items in Record Time

- ♦ LONG COATS
- ♦ SHORT COATS
- ♦ "WRAP AROUND" COATS
- ♦ DRESSES
- ♦ NURSES UNIFORMS

The *Jaxon* LAYMAKER With Revolving Buck

The secret of the fantastic success of this new press is shown in the series of photos above. This revolutionary method of pressing enables the operator to produce far more than with any other machine on the market today. The reason? — the press does 90% of the work as it rotates. Coat body and yoke are finished in three simple lays.





***Shirt Style Folding on Long Coats?**

In many areas of the country a shirt type fold on long coats has become popular. Now Pinnacle Products Corp. offers the Jaxon Coat Folder. Five simple operations take less than 15 seconds. EVERY coat and dress can now be folded to a uniform size.

Write today for free descriptive booklet.

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makes your undersized laundry bigger than you think!

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"Over 600 Braun Unit Wash, combination Washer-extractors now operating successfully in leading institutions and commercial laundries. Insist on time proved machines that can assure your laundry of saving up to—50% labor—60% space—30% water—30% fuel—40% supply. Reduce mending cost 35%—increase fabric life 50%".

Get full information. Write today!

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Pioneer in Automation

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G. A. Braun, Inc., Dept. 101
461 E. Brighton Ave., Syracuse, N. Y.
Have your representative call or send me full information plus list of institutional users of the Braun Combination Washer-Extractor.

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Company.....
Address.....
City..... State.....

G. A. Braun (Canada) Ltd., 2 Usher St., Brantford, Ontario

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Products Parade

continued from page 8

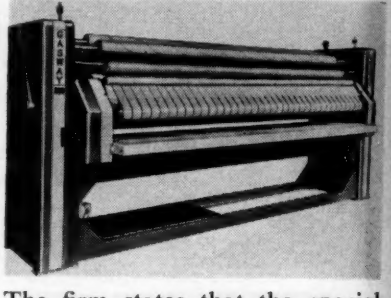
Combo Washer-Extractor

G. A. Braun, Inc. has introduced a new 60-pound combo washer-extractor, designed specifically for high production cabinet shirt units, fugitives or small lots for large institutional laundries or the entire load of smaller laundries. The machine's features include reverse wash action, outboard bearings, double labyrinth seals, electric clutch, top mounted drives and rugged frame construction. The unit comes either semi-automatic or completely automatic with automatic supply dispenser.

CIRCLE 57 ON READERS INQUIRY CARD

New 24 Inch Ironer

A new 24 inch ironer, built on the skewed roll principle which tends to stretch out flatwork as it passes through, has been announced by the *Gasway Corp.*



The firm states that the special action makes for smoother finished work because the linen no longer has the tendency to gravitate toward the center of the roll. This results in smoother corners and prevents wrinkles in the body of the work. The ironer is available in two basic sizes, 110 and 120 inches, in both steam and gas heated models. Output is rated from 17 to 50 feet per minute.

CIRCLE 58 ON READERS INQUIRY CARD

Efficiency Recorder

A new management device, said to be ideal for institutional laundry use, is the efficiency recorder put out by *Gorrell & Gorrell.* The device, which will work from any moving part of a machine, reveals both the "on"

continued on page 54

How often do you change fwi tape or cord?

daily? . . . . . ☐
weekly? . . . ☐
monthly? . . ☐

Due to different types of equipment and varied conditions, ironer tape and cord life varies. With few exceptions, Gibraltar Ironer Tapes run for *many months* before needing replacement. Extremely rough treatment may reduce the life to weeks.

In any event, Gibraltar Dacron and Nylon tapes will outlast any other tapes by far. We'd like for you to find out for yourself. Send for a sample to install on your own ironer. TEST AND COMPARE

Gibraltar DACRON FWI Tape

The finest, longest lasting Dacron tape on the market today. Designed by laundrymen for those who prefer this new material. A test will show you how to get many more running hours before tape-changing time.

Gibraltar NYLON FWI Tape

The most widely used tape in the industry for many years. Millions of hours of testing time in the toughest proving grounds... plants all over the country. They agree it is the best for all-purpose use.

TEST and COMPARE

get a sample order from your jobber or send in coupon TODAY for a FREE SAMPLE
to install on your own ironer.

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Gentlemen: I am interested in making the *Tape Test* on my own equipment.
Please send me a sample of Gibraltar DACRON FWI Tape ☐
Gibraltar NYLON FWI Tape ☐

My ironer has ..... rollers.

Name _____
Address _____
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Letters to the editor

LM Nelan Gets Support

In your last issue, John J. Nelan's letter to you was indeed timely. It contained common sense. The skills required by the average laundry employee are far in excess of those required in many other jobs for which the workers get far higher salaries.

James E. Sterling, LM
VA Engineering Division
Laundry
Brooklyn, N. Y.

I heartily agree with Mr. Nelan that the labor employed should be the best possible and receive wages comparable to its efforts and abilities. Low wages do not attract good workers. Those of us in mental institutions who must use some patient labor (ours, mentally retarded) have too many of the strong back variety, and the value of an able, intelligent employee is really spotlighted.

Milford M. Flint, LM
Pineland Hospital and
Training Center
Pownal, Me.

These are but a few of the letters we have received supporting Mr. Nelan's Stand. Our readers may recall LM Nelan objected to using parolee help as suggested in our December issue, page 13, by George Litz, Superintendent of Laundries of the Department of Correction of New York City. Nelan's contention is that LMs should try to attract the best labor possible by somehow getting the wage scale raised. We know Litz has strong adherents. We'd like to hear from them.

Thanks A Lot

I enjoyed your article on the East Orange General Hospital laundry published in your last issue. The director of our hospital was also pleased to see that our program had been given national recognition by your magazine. In fact, he even requested that the story be prominently displayed in the hospital dining room so that it could be viewed by all our employees.

Joseph Dzitko, LM
East Orange General Hospital
East Orange, N. J.

Request Steam Trap Policeman

I am interested in finding a source of supply of the steam trap policing crayon described in your last issue's "Genius At Work."

C. M. Nikel
Assistant Administrator
Evangelical Deaconess Hospital
Cleveland, Ohio

Would you please send us any further information you have on the crayons available with fixed melting points? Thank you.

Milton C. Kennaugh
Administrator
Clinton Hospital
Clinton, Mass.

Kindly send full information regarding the "permanent trap watch dog" mentioned in your last issue. My machines carry 100-110 pounds steam pressure.

Ralph Lawrence
Rochester 7, N. Y.

Please send me literature or further information you might have on the crayons used for testing steam traps.

Herbert Higginbotham
Engineer
Elberton-Elbert County Hospital
Elberton, Ga.

To Messrs. Nikel, Kennaugh, Lawrence, Higginbotham and the many others who requested this information, we were happy to pass it on. The lone manufacturer of this item (as far as we know) is the Tempil Corp., 132 22nd St., N. Y. 11, N. Y. The crayon itself is called a "Tempil-stik."

A Lot for the LM

Thank you for your courtesy in sending along the copies of your April issue containing the excerpt from the "Hotel Textile Purchasing Guide" and the very favorable review of same. Your review points up something which, I believe, may have discouraged many LMs from reading the Guide, that is, the title fails to indicate how much information there is about laundries and laundry operation. We hope LMs will be more inclined now to read the Guide, since we believe, as you do, that it can be of great value to them.

John Fassett
American Hotel Association
New York City

Wants Sister Mary's Book

In regard to the review in your "For Your Bookshelf" column, I would like to purchase "The Institutional Laundry As I see It," by Sister Mary Celeste. Could you tell me where I can get it?

Donald Fulwiler, LM
Good Samaritan Hospital
Portland, Ore.

We sent this request on to Sister Mary Celeste. LM Fulwiler, and our other readers, might find the excerpt we publish from her book in this issue, on page 16, of great interest.

The LM's Best Friend

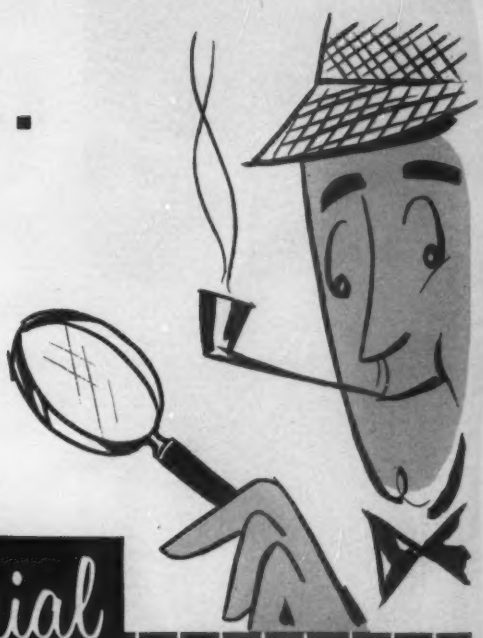
I am very pleased to note that Fritz Field will act as Consulting Editor for Institutional Laundry Magazine. A good trade paper is the LM's best friend. You can get the administrator to read something when you cannot get him to take time to talk to you.

We see very little printed on laundries in the large state mental hospitals. Our big problems are linen control and checking patients' personal clothing. Training patients in laundry procedure and methods is another problem. I understand the trend now in mental hospitals is not to use patient labor.

Peter Barry, LM
New Hampshire State Hospital
Concord, N. H.

If LM Barry will turn to page 32 of this issue, he might find some useful information about how to handle patients' personal clothes. And in our next issue we plan an even more extensive article on the problems of patient clothing and linen control in mental hospitals. □

BEFORE YOU INVEST...
INVESTIGATE THE
SUPER Imperial



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GREATER IRONING SURFACE—
FOR PEAK VOLUME PRODUCTION

Silent, powerful, efficient, economical . . . these are the "trademarks" of the new SUPER 8-Roll Imperial. Feature by feature, SUPER quality guarantees you the long-term satisfaction you have the right to demand from such an important investment.

With its extra-large padded pressure rolls (full 12¹⁵⁄₁₆" bare diameter, 13⅜" padded diameter) and extra-deep steam chests, the SUPER Imperial delivers 20% extra heated surface under pressure! The results . . . the greater drying capacity needed by institutions, hotels, linen supply and large commercial plants.

Yes... before you invest... investigate SUPER!

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What you can do to fight staph infection

With the threat of staphylococcus infection facing the nation's hospitals, administrators are looking to LMs to maintain linens as free from bacteria as possible. Recent tests indicate that not only can the LM send his work from the laundry, assured that it is bacteria-free, but he can treat it so it will remain bacteria-free until it returns to the laundry after use.

By Fritz Field and Thomas P. Weil

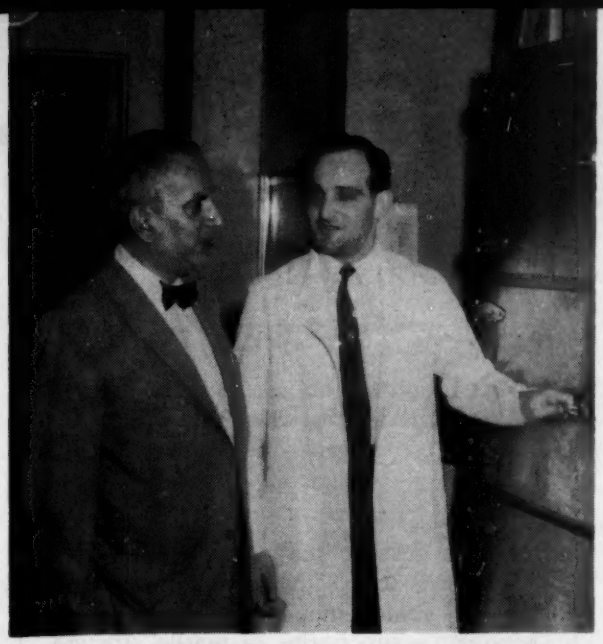
Staphylococcus aureus or the "golden villain", as it is sometimes called because of its appearance under the microscope, has struck hard at hospitals throughout this country and the world. Institutions in England, Germany, India, New Zealand and Australia have reported bacterial invasion by it. Death from the infection has struck in hospitals in Winnipeg, Seattle and Houston, only to mention a few cities in the United States and Canada. Recently 16 babies in less than three months died from the staph in a Texas hospital.

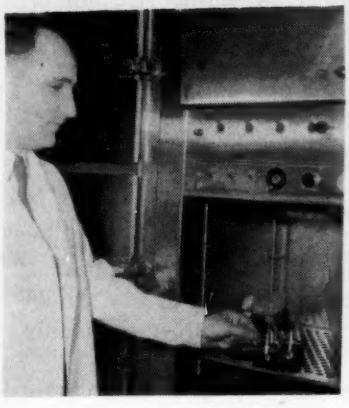
One of its least desirable aspects is that the hospital environment can and does inflict it on patients who entered free from contamination. A slight relaxation in sanitary precautions can cause the highly infectious germ to spread.

In many instances it has been reported that the hospital linen may act as a carrier of the scourge. Tests have shown that linen fresh from the laundry has become staph-infected even before reaching the patient's bedside. It has reached the point where Dr. Carl Walters of Harvard Medical School, and other authorities in the field, have warned that improper linen handling and processing can be one of the prime contributors to the spread of the staph. Increasingly administrators are interested in handling linen so that it is rendered bacteria static.

This puts the problem, then, squarely up to the LM. What can he do about it?

Generally, the normal laundering process of cotton goods, using the regular washing formula, will destroy most bacteria contained in soiled linen. However, the germicidal action generally has not been as effective when washing blankets. Also, after finishing, linen is exposed to bacterial infiltration from improperly cleaned laundry trucks,





At left, co-authors, Fritz Field and Tom Weil, check the incubator where treated and untreated linens were kept for 48 hours. At bottom left, Weil points to the flasks in the incubator. In the center picture, he picks up the flask containing the treated linen. He ascertains, by the liquid's transparency, that there has been no staphylococcus growth. At bottom right, snips of linen, placed in petri dishes seeded with a pathogenic strain of the staph, show that laundry processed with quaternary ammonium compounds, possesses a zone of bacteria inhibition for 48 hours. The tests were conducted with the assistance of the Department of Microbiology at Mount Sinai Hospital, in New York.

poor ventilation in the linen room, dirty cupboards, etc. In addition, lint from the linens has acted as an air-borne infection carrier.

Thus, since linen is exposed to bacteria during distribution, as well as when the patient comes into contact with it, it is of the utmost importance that it be made bacteria static—that is, that bacteria growth on the linens be checked until they are returned to the laundry.

It is obvious that if linens could be so protected against bacteria, the LM would have taken a vital step in checking staph infection.

A Lab Report of the Test

With the assistance of the department of Microbiology at Mount Sinai Hospital in New York, we tested several quaternary ammonium compounds for their bacteria static efficiency. These agents were formulated specifically for their bacteriocidal activities. A summary of the microbiologist's findings follows:

Eight pieces of linen were obtained from the laundry. Six had been treated; the others washed in a normal manner. No special precautions were taken after laundering and the materials were transmitted to the laboratory unwrapped and without special handling.

A piece from each sample was snipped off and innoculated into flasks of nutrient broth. In addition, a snip of each was placed on a Petri dish culture seeded with a pathogenic strain of staphylococcus aureus.

After incubating at 37 C for 48 hours, the following was noted. The flask containing the treated snip was sterile, while the one containing the regularly laundered snip showed bacterial growth.

With regard to the staphylococcus seeded plates, a zone of bacterial inhibition was noted around the treated snip, indicating anti-staphylococcus activity. No such zone was evident around the untreated snip.

This would indicate that such treatment of laundry might be of value.

At least three commercial products, according to this experiment, made blankets and linen bacteria static for several days. Such products, claiming to possess bacteria static properties, must conform to Department of Agriculture and Food and Drug Administration standards. And, further, must comply with all their registration procedure. The active germ killing ingredients, plus the phenol coefficient, must be clearly marked on the label. Furthermore, the phenol coefficient, with proper temperature and time, must comply with minimum standards of the Food and Drug Administration, based on its official testing method.

Now since the experiment indicates that these compounds will render laundry bacteria static, what is the best way to use them? We suggest that the

continued on page 26

Use costly percales—and save money!

Sister Mary Celeste

A 14-month survey at St. Mary's Hospital, St. Louis, reveals that expensive percale costs less in the long run than cheaper muslin.

Is the original cost of a sheet a minor factor in figuring its true lifetime cost; and, therefore, does the total processing cost during its period of serviceability far outweigh the purchase price?

This, and other pertinent questions, prompted us to make a study of how much sheets actually cost, since we felt that too much emphasis may be put on initial cost and not enough on cost during use.

The result of our 14-month survey of all types of sheets—from type 128 to type 200—under rigid scientific controls, proved astonishing. It revealed that the sheet that cost the most initially proved less expensive when total cost was taken into account, than the sheet that was least expensive.

The reasons for this were two. The more expensive grade lasted longer and was less costly to launder.

The following table gives the "cost per use" of the sheets tested. By "cost per use" we mean the purchase price plus laundering cost plus the sheet's life expectancy.

Comparative Study of Three Grades of Sheets		
Thread Count	Fabric	Cost Per Use
140	Muslin	$.0766
180	Percale	.0683
200	Percale	.0674

During the testing all sheets were subject to regular use. They were washed, extracted, ironed and folded following standard procedures. Tensile strength tests took into account loss both in the warp and filling, and complete records were kept of each sheet until it no longer met the minimum in tensile strength standards.

Here are the results:

1. Of all sheets tested, the type 200 percale survived the greatest number of launderings, 553.
2. The relative superiority in tensile strength of type 200 over all other sheets tested, increased steadily throughout the series of washings. It was highest toward the end of the life span—the time when a sheet was most likely to tear.
3. The superiority of type 200 over all others was accountable for its 15 to 30 per cent greater resistance to tearing, ripping or puncturing.

What do these results mean to the purchasing agent or the LM if he handles buying? Simply this, his estimate of what grade of sheeting to buy should take into account the "true cost" rather than only the purchase price.

Here are four criteria that will give an accurate estimate of the "true cost" of a sheet:

1. The original purchase price.
2. The cost per laundering. (The heavier the sheet, the more it will cost.)
3. The life expectancy.
4. Tensile strength retention. This may not seem significant at first because all new sheets will show a high rating. But after considerable use, a tensile strength test will point up whether the sheet's resistance to strain is high or low. This vital point is often overlooked in studies of the relative life wear of various types of sheets.

Our formula for using these criteria to arrive at an accurate cost figure is this: Cost per use equals the purchase price plus the total laundering cost during the life of the sheet plus the life expectancy

continued on page 46

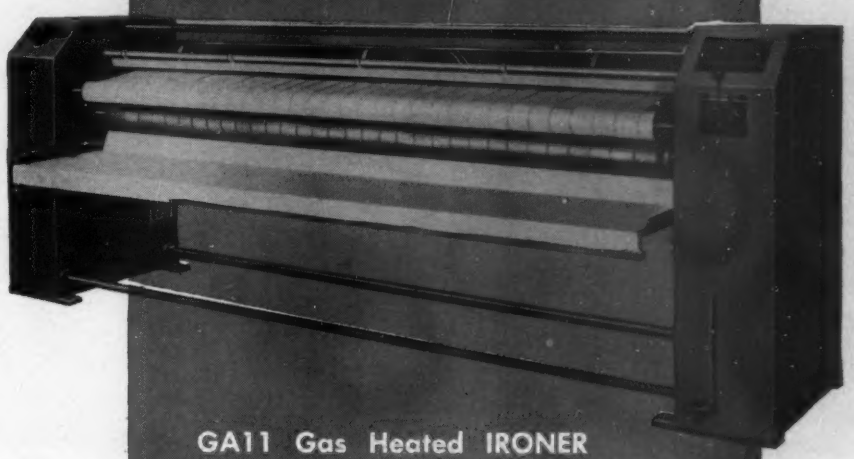
4 factors that go into your total sheet cost

- Original purchase price
- The cost per laundering
- The sheet's life expectancy
- Tensile strength retention

Time Tested and PROVED!

Over thirty-five years of specialization in ironer construction assure you of satisfaction with Chicago Flatwork Ironers. They embody the latest engineering and design features to produce high quality flatwork with low operating costs. Their modern streamlined design and simplicity of construction assure you of minimum maintenance costs.

Gas Heated Flatwork Ironers are available with 11", 16" or 24" diameter heated roll, 60" to 120" lengths. There are more Chicago Gas Heated Flatwork Ironers than any other brand in quick service laundries, hospitals and institutions. Asbestos padding and asbestos return ribbons are standard equipment on all gas heated ironers to reduce operating costs.



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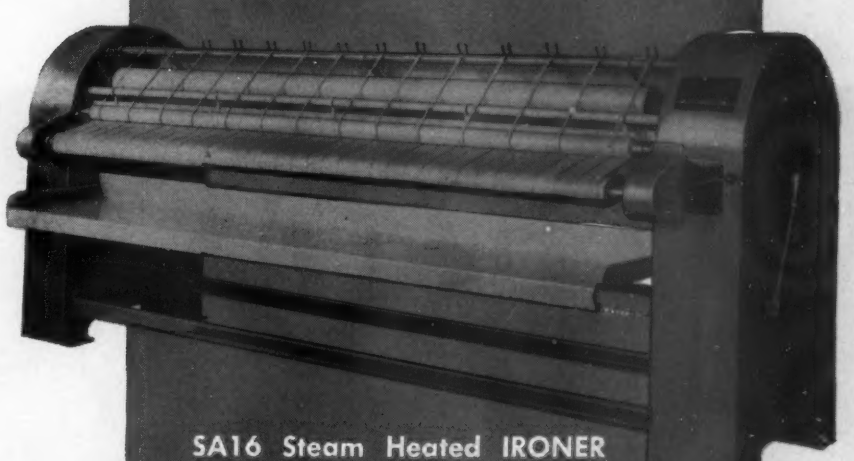
Steam Heated Flatwork Ironers are available with 11", 16" or 24" diameter heated roll, 60" to 120" lengths. Chicago Steam Heated Ironers are ideal for institutions, quick service and drive-in plants, and hospitals. No other steam heated ironers of comparable size have their modern design and simplicity of construction. Asbestos return ribbons are standard equipment on all steam heated models to reduce operating costs.



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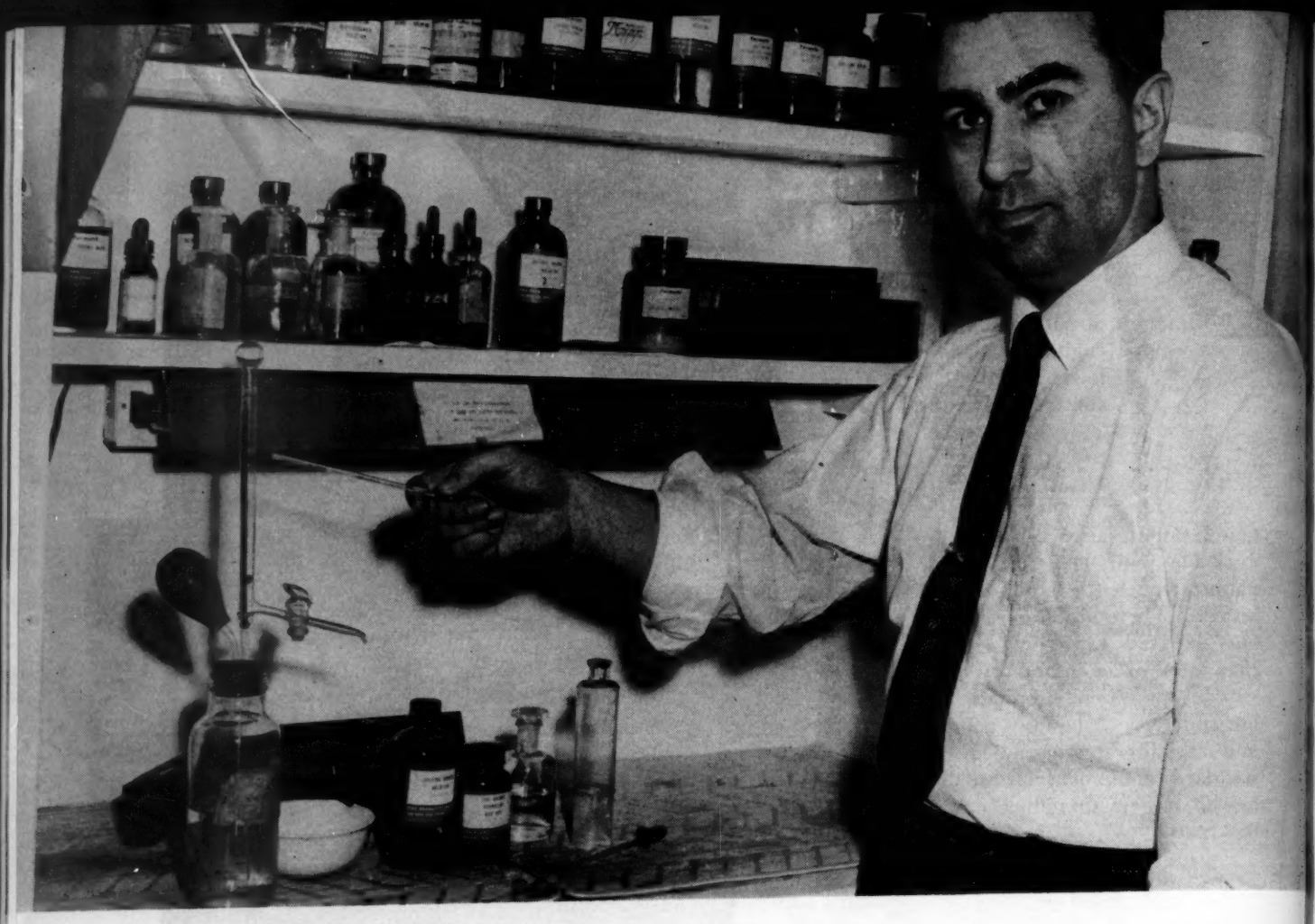
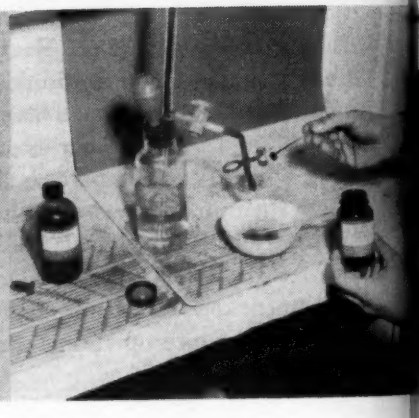


How to make simple water tests

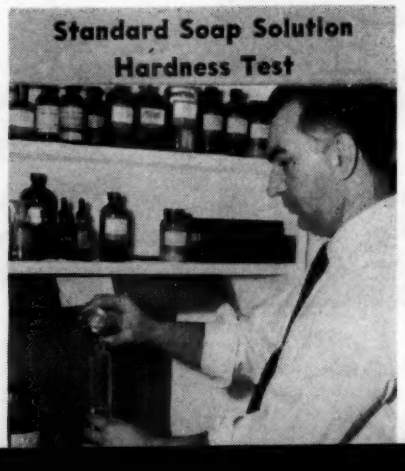
Testing for Water Hardness by Titration

1



2

by John Alexander
Water consultant



Water is the LM's principal weapon in his constant fight against stains, soiling and dirt. And one of the best ways of determining if the wash water is in fighting trim is by making several simple tests.

These take only a short time; the materials needed are inexpensive and a small shelf and table will hold all the equipment and allow you enough space to conduct your tests.

In this article we will describe and illustrate tests for hardness, for measuring the amount of alkali and acid in water (titration) and for finding the pH.

Everything you will need can be purchased at any chemical supply house. Since these are standard tests, equipment and supplies are always available and the cost is low.

Hard water is one of the biggest causes of trouble in the washroom and that is true even in plants that have softeners. It is a good idea then to check water hardness frequently during the day. Several LMs we know make a routine check on the hour.

There is one very simple test for hardness. For this you'll need standard APHA Soap Solution (ask for it by that name), a dropper bottle that will pour solution a drop at a time, and a sample bottle marked at the 20 millimeter level with ample room left over for mixing the soap solution and water.

You make the test by first filling the sample bottle with wash water up to the 20 ml. mark. Add 10 drops of standard soap solution from the dropper bottle to the water, shake it vigorously and let it stand.

If you get a lasting lather, the water is soft. If the water doesn't lather, keep adding soap solution a drop at a time (shaking the bottle after each drop), until a lather does form.

You can now calculate the hardness of the water by counting the number of drops of soap solution that had to be added before lather was produced. For every 17 drops of solution, after the first 10, hardness equals one grain.

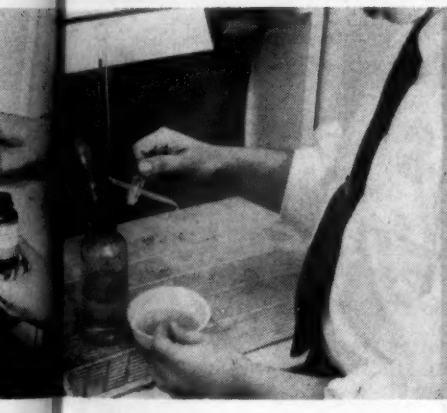
While this test will give a rough idea of water hardness, titrating with a color indicator is much more accurate. Incidentally, titration simply means finding out how much of a given substance is in a solution.

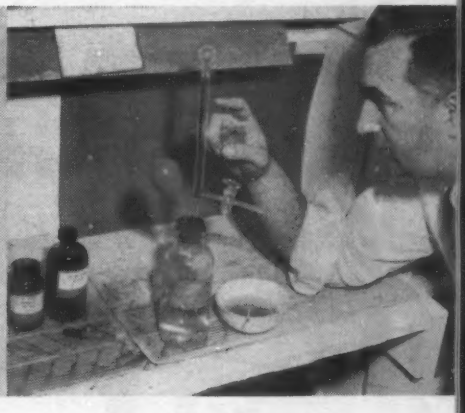
For this test you will need a porcelain dish, a dropper, sulfide borate solution, Azo dye powder, sequestering solution and a burette. (A burette is a graduated glass tube with a small aperture and stopcock. It is used to deliver measured quantities of liquids.)

Again, let us point out all this equipment and material can be purchased with no trouble at a chemical supply house.

For the step by step method of making this test, follow the directions under the pictures below.

In addition to testing for hardness, titration can reveal the amount of acidity or alkalinity in a solution. If you have an alkaline sample, titrate with standard acid (purchased under that name and containing a known specified amount of acid in a given volume of solution). You will want your acid at half of normal concentration and this will be termed standard acid at N/50 concentration. You will need,





1. Bill Martin, water chemist, is taking the first step in test to ascertain water hardness by titration. He is adding 0.5 ml of sulfide-borate solution to a 50 ml sample of water, stirring continuously.

2. After letting the mixture stand for two minutes, he adds 0.2 ml of Azo dye powder. If hardness is present, sample of water turns red.

3. To find out what degree of hardness exists (assuming sample turned red), he adds sequestering solution in N/50 concentration of the burette.

4. He then turns the pet-cock of the burette and sequestering solution enters mixture, drop by drop. When water sample turns blue, end of titration is near.

5. Martin then reads the graduated scale on top of the bottle to find out how much sequestering solution he added. He multiplies by 20 and this gives him the number of parts per million hardness.

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Here are a few Hospitals that now use the HYDRAXTOR

Highland Hospital Rochester, N.Y.	**Presbyterian Hospital** Philadelphia, Pa.	**Univ. of Colorado Medical Ctr.** Denver, Colo.
Presbyterian Hospital Chicago, Ill.	**Salt Lake City General Hospital** Salt Lake City, Utah	**Oak Park Hospital** Oak Park, Ill.
St. Barnabas Hospital Minneapolis, Minn.	**Camarillo State Hospital** Camarillo, Calif.	**Evangelical Deaconess Hospital** Milwaukee, Wis.
Univ. of Oregon Medical Center Portland, Oregon	**St. Luke's Hospital** Kansas City, Mo.	**Jackson Memorial Hospital** Miami, Fla.

Circle No. 17 on Post Card

*THE MODERN ... QUIET ... METHOD OF EXTRACTION!

At the far left is a Taylor test kit used in the color indicator test to measure pH. It comes complete with base, indicator solution, sample test tubes and standard color slide. The adjacent picture shows the beginning of the test. Three sample test tubes have been filled to the 5 ml mark and have been put into the three holes of the base. Indicator solution, in an 0.5 ml quantity, is being added to the middle test tube.

The indicator solution has changed the color of the sample. In the near right picture the color slide, held in the left hand, gives the pH reading that goes with each color. At the far right, the three test tubes have been inserted into the color standard slide. The instrument is held up to the light, and the slide moved across the front until a good color match is obtained.

in addition, a color indicator, such as phenolphthalein, methyl red or methyl orange.

This test is also a simple affair. Take a 100 ml. sample of water, with color indicator in it, and add the acid from the burette until the color changes. Each ml. of acid added before the change equals 50 ppm. (parts per million) of alkalinity.

Titration is not a good check on your detergent use because it reveals only the amount and not the activity of the alkali or acid present. In the bleach bath, however, it does help to know how much alkali you have because the amount will control the length of your rinse.

To find out how much alkalinity is in the bleach bath get a sample of water from the kickoff valve of the wheel a few seconds after it is opened. Measure out a small sample, about 25 ml., into your porcelain dish, then add a few drops of phenolphthalein, which will color the water pink. Then from the burette release a small quantity of acid in 10th normal concentration (known as n/10 strength) into the dish and swirl the liquid. When color begins to fade, add acid more slowly and shake until the color is all gone.

Now note the acid level in the burette. For each ml. of acid used, the water contains 50 ppm. of the stronger alkalinity. Caustic soda and caustic potash will be completely neutralized at this point and one half of any soda ash will also be neutralized.

The remaining half of the soda ash and any other alkalinity will be too weak to turn the phenolphthalein pink so they cannot be titrated with it.

To titrate these add a few drops of methyl red or orange to the now colorless solution which will then turn yellow. Once again introduce acid, shaking frequently, until the yellow turns pink in the case of methyl red or salmon if methyl orange was used.

For each ml. of acid there is one ppm. of the weaker alkalinity.

The sum of both titrations will indicate the total of alkalinity in the bleach bath.

To test for pH, you will need what is called a Taylor test kit. Again, this can be purchased at any chemical supply house. The kit comes complete with base, indicator, solution, sample test tubes and the standard color slide.

For instructions on how to run these tests see pictures here above. The pH test does not measure the quantity of acid or alkali in water, it measures the much more important factor—its activity. In other words, it informs you how hard whatever acid or alkali you have can work for you.

Neutral solutions have a pH of seven. Practical pH range is from 0 to 14. Below seven is the acid range; above seven, the alkali range.

A pH test is a quick way to judge the condition of the sour bath. Take a sample after the wheel has run long enough to distribute the sour evenly. Then run the pH test as illustrated. If the pH is about five, enough sour has been used to completely neutralize alkalinity. If the pH is above this, add more sour.

When the load is pulled, take a second check on pH. Alkalinity of the water used after souring neutralizes some of the sour, but the pH should still be below seven. □

Extensive testing in 12 hotels throughout the country under actual working conditions, revealed that colored linens are practical, are easy to handle, do not fade appreciably, and do not create any problem for the laundry. Also, nine out of ten guests like them better than they do white linens.

Year-long tests demonstrate colored lines pay off in hotels

by George Ainsworth

EDITOR'S NOTE: "Color sells," has become the motto of today's alert businessman, and being alert businessmen, hotel owners, have begun to investigate the use of colored linens in guest rooms.

One obstacle to large scale use has been the ignorance of how colored linens would behave under the rugged conditions of hotel wear. Prospective users want to know how much they would fade, whether they'd need special washing formulas, whether housekeeping would find them a handling problem, how expensive they'd be, etc.

To answer these questions, the American Hotel Association has just completed a large scale test of colored linens under exacting hotel conditions. We asked George Ainsworth, who was assistant director of the association's Research and Service Department when the tests were made, to give us a report on them.

We selected 12 hotels in different sections of the country. Behind our choices was the idea of getting results under a variety of climatic, labor, water and other conditions that would affect usage.

After the hotels had been chosen we got in touch with the National Executive Housekeepers Association to request the cooperation of their members in the hotels. I'm happy to say they went all the way with us because without their cooperation the test would not have been possible.

The next step was to secure a supply of colored linens for test purposes, and here an allied member of AHA, the E. I. Du Pont Company, stepped in. They furnished us enough linens to completely outfit four rooms in each of the 12 hotels. Sheets and pillowcases came in four pastel shades; huck and terry towels, in two.

The procedure used in conducting the test was simple. We advised the executive housekeeper in each hotel to select four rooms in which the linens would blend best with the decor. She was to rotate the linens in sets, keeping them in use as much as room occupancy permitted.

Every month she was to turn in a report on each color. We asked for information on the average number of launderings in that period, an evaluation of color loss when compared with a fresh sample, comments of LMs and other authoritative persons, etc. The laundry was also to provide us with its washing formula, which included type soap used, bleach, temperatures of rinse and wash waters, etc.

We requested specifically that the laundry use the same formula for the colored as it did for the regular white work. Colored linens have to submit to the same conditions because once special formulas are set up, costs become prohibitive.

The next factual data we felt to be of vital importance was guest reaction. We placed cards in the rooms outfitted with colored linens for occupants to fill out telling us how they reacted to them. The hotels sent these cards onto us.

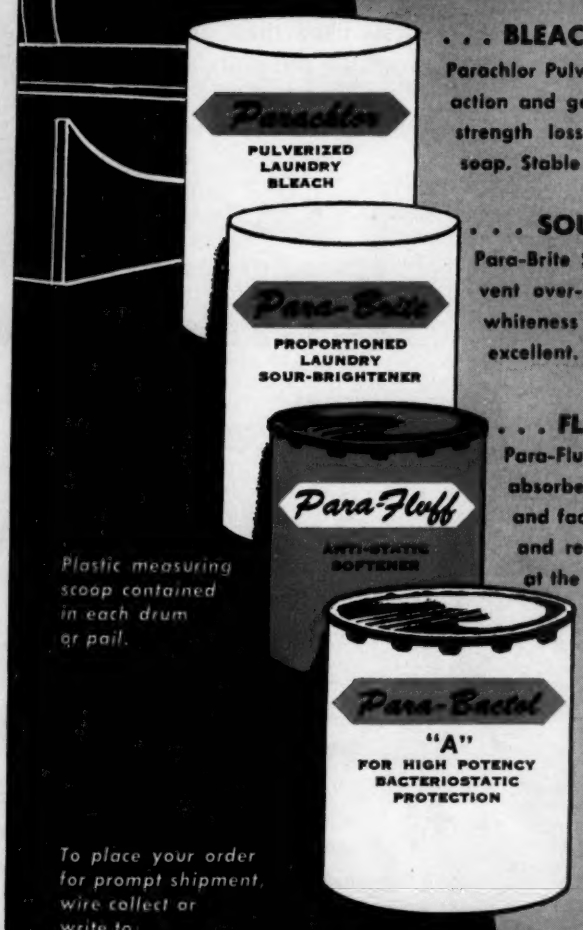
This test, as I've described it,

REPRINTS OF TESTS

Reprints of this complete test, giving all details, can be had by writing Institutional Laundry, 10 East 40th St., NYC.

For the special attention of the
LAUNDRY MANAGER...

For greatly superior bleaching, souring-brightening, fluff-softening, and now high potency bacteriostatic protection, use co-ordinated and proportioned Parachlor products.



Plastic measuring scoop contained in each drum or pail.

. . . BLEACHING DRY TO THE WHEEL

Parachlor Pulverized Laundry Bleach gives perfect bleaching action and good stain removal with a minimum of tensile strength loss. High whiteness retention, compatible with soap. Stable and safe. Use 1 to 2 oz. per 100 lbs of linen.

. . . SOURING-BRIGHTENING

Para-Brite Sour-Brightener is skillfully proportioned to prevent over-blueing and gives best souring action. For top whiteness in artificial light or daylight, this brightener is excellent. Use 1 or 2 oz. per 100 lbs. of linen.

. . . FLUFF-SOFTENING

Para-Fluff is the amazing liquid softener which increases absorbency, imparts a luxurious smooth and soft "hand" and facilitates processing. Gives superior anti-static qualities and resistance to scorching. Applied directly to the wheel at the rate of approx. 2 oz. per 100 lbs. of linen.

. . . BACTERIOSTATIC AGENT

Para-Bactol "A" is a concentrated liquid quaternary ammonium compound scientifically formulated for the effective control of "STAPH" (Staphylococcus Aureus) and other microbe growth on fabrics. The Parachlor research staff have developed this product at the urgent request of our hospitals for an effective agent to combat the widely publicized danger of airborne bacterial infection. Recommended formula: approx. 2 oz. at low water level after last rinse.

To place your order for prompt shipment, wire collect or write to:

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Circle No. 29 on Post Card

began a little over a year ago. It ran for six months in half the participating hotels, and for 12 months in the other half. Once tests were completed, the linens were shipped to Du Pont's laboratories for a joint evaluation by their technicians and our own people.

I can sum up the result in a sentence. Colored linens proved practical from all standpoints. Examination on the part of the housekeepers, the Du Pont staff and AHA people, noted that there was virtually no color loss between linens in service a year and linens in service only six months. All the loss came within the first few months and indications were that most occurred within the first few weeks. This means that the linens reached a color plateau quickly and thereafter retained their tint.

Now, here is another encouraging result. According to the rating system we established, everyone agreed that most fading was limited to the "slight" category. "Appreciable" and "considerable" fading was found in only a very few instances.

Of course, none of this would mean much if guests turned thumbs down on the idea, so we were quite eager to tabulate their reaction cards.

I'm happy to say that results were positive. Of 178 cards received, 88 per cent were in favor of colored linens. A third of these were downright enthusiastic about them. Only a total of 12 cards out of the 178 showed that those who filled them out liked white linens better than colored. Five per cent of the room occupants had no preference either way.

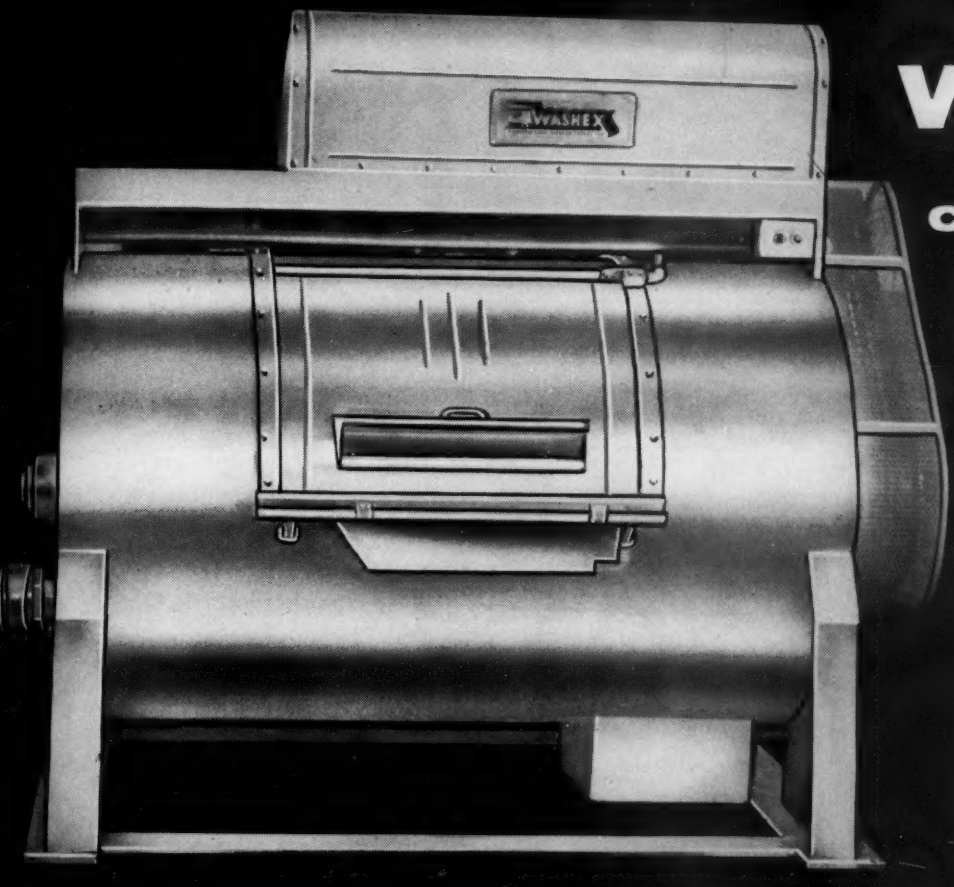
Cost of Colored Linen

Once these results were in, we were curious as to what colored linens would cost. Best estimates are that a room set, including three full changes, would come to $3.00 a year more than for white linens. We feel this is a modest additional investment for the benefits resulting.

For instance, colored linens seem to snap up the whole appearance of a room. They impart a sparkle that could only be gained by far more costly decorative items like drapes or carpets. Promotionally, of course, their value can hardly be overestimated.

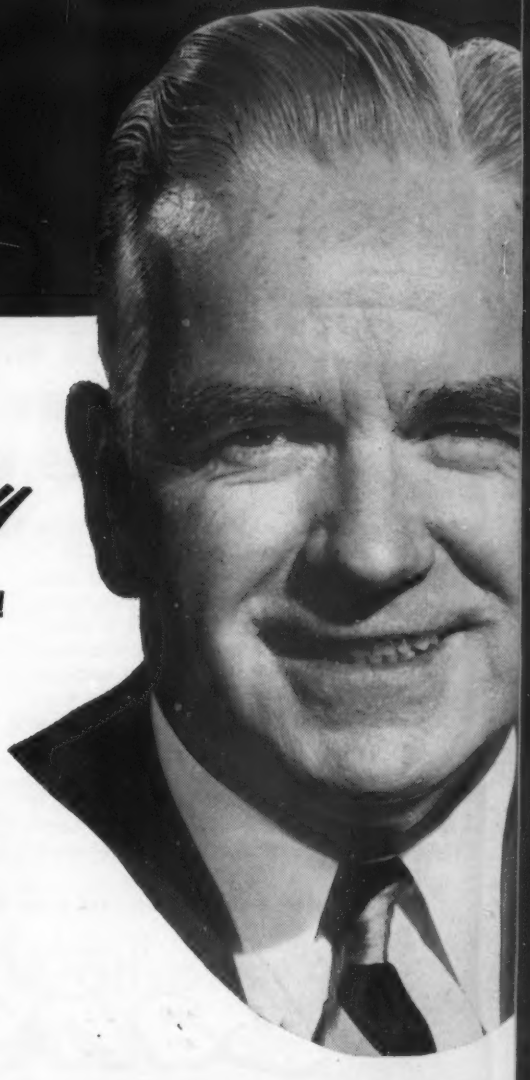
Let me inject just one word of caution here. We don't recommend that a hotel use as many as four colors. That involves too much sorting for the maids making up the rooms. We suggest two compatible colors, say blue and yellow. The sheets can be one color and the pillowcases another, or some other breakdown can be used.

That's the story. To sum up the results, the test showed that colored linens are practical, that they can be handled easily, that guests liked them and that they presented no additional problem either in processing or distribution. □



WHAT?

consistently 1200 POH in a washroom?



YES, THAT'S RIGHT!

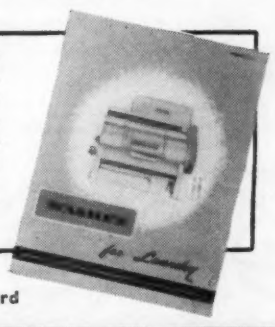
WITH WASHEX *for Laundry*

1200 POH* IS AN EASY ACHIEVEMENT!

For it takes *one man only 8-10 minutes to load and unload* 300 lbs. of netted work — all extracted — ready for finishing. Add to it time for preparing the work plus for "taking a breather", and it becomes obvious why with WASHEX it is so easy for one man to wash-extract 1200 lbs. per hour, and *do even better*.**

*Pounds per Operator Hour
**Loose work takes slightly longer

Find out how to slash your washroom *labor and supply costs!* Just clip this ad to your letterhead and mail it to us. No obligation of course.



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WASHEX MACHINERY CORPORATION

192 BANKER STREET, BROOKLYN 22, N.Y.

"... linens can be made bacteria-static."

continued from page 15

quaternary ammonium compound be added to the lukewarm water during the last rinse at a level of two to three inches in a five to 10 minute operation. The lab tests indicated that three to four ounces per 100 pounds of linen is necessary to obtain satisfactory results. The quantity used will depend on the phenol coefficient and the texture of the material.

Let us add one important point here. To date there has been no evidence that these compounds cause dipers rashes, bed sores or skin irritation. In other words, they are completely safe.

The cost of this precaution, using the quantity we suggest, would come to about 16 cents per 100 pounds of linen. When the LM suggests that the use of these compounds probably would help in the fight against staphylococcus infection the hospital administration would consider the advantages in terms of the additional expense involved. To minimize the cost, the laundry might try employing these germicidal additives only on selected items. The following would seem to require the most protection:

1. Woolen blankets, Repeated tests, plus letters we have received from LMs, clearly show that regular washing of blankets is not effective against staph.
2. Uniforms of physicians, nurses and hospital employees. Since these individuals come into frequent contact with patients, their clothes are potential carriers of these microbes.
3. OBS and OR linen. This would help protect autoclaved packs against contamination even after they have been opened.
4. Nursery linen. Infection in the nurseries has been one of the hospital's greatest hazards for generations.

In addition to using these quaternary ammonium compounds, we can recommend a further useful precaution. This is to line the linen trucks with some type of easily washable cloth. For instance, nylon linings are now available for standard size linen carts that can be removed, laundered and replaced on the truck without difficulty. This would help circumvent the problem of the dirty linen truck. □

ABOUT THE AUTHORS: Fritz Field, IL's consulting editor, is a national authority on the problems of hospital laundries. He is a former president of NAILM. Tom Weil is presently an administrative resident at Mount Sinai. Previously, he was administrative aide at the U.S. Army General Hospital, Stuttgart, Germany, for two years. Weil has published 12 articles about various phases of hospital activity.

Laundry Truck with Automatic Lift
INCREASES FLATWORK-IRONER PRODUCTION
—DECREASES WORK FATIGUE

The new Lane Style 48F Flatwork-Ironer Truck with Automatic Lift is designed to fit in pairs, end to end, under ironer feed roll. The automatic lift keeps work at truck rim level, enabling workers to feed flatwork onto the roll continuously without slowing down to bend over or turn around. It speeds up production, cuts down workers' backaches and fatigue.

STYLE 48F FLATWORK-IRONER TRUCK is made from heavy Lane canvas, plasticized, and securely sewn and riveted to the special Lane patented spring steel frame, with double riveted hardwood bottom to which heavy-duty swivel, rubber wheel casters are mounted.

SPECIAL AUTOMATIC LIFT is designed to handle a 350-lb. load of damp work. This lift is a plasticized canvas platform with light spring steel underframe, suspended from spring lifters which hook over the truck rim. Spring lifters are encased in sleeves to prevent damage to laundry.

To be SURE of the best, INSIST ON *LANE* Style 48F Flatwork-Ironer Truck with the Automatic Lift.

Write for information.

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THE LANE BASKET

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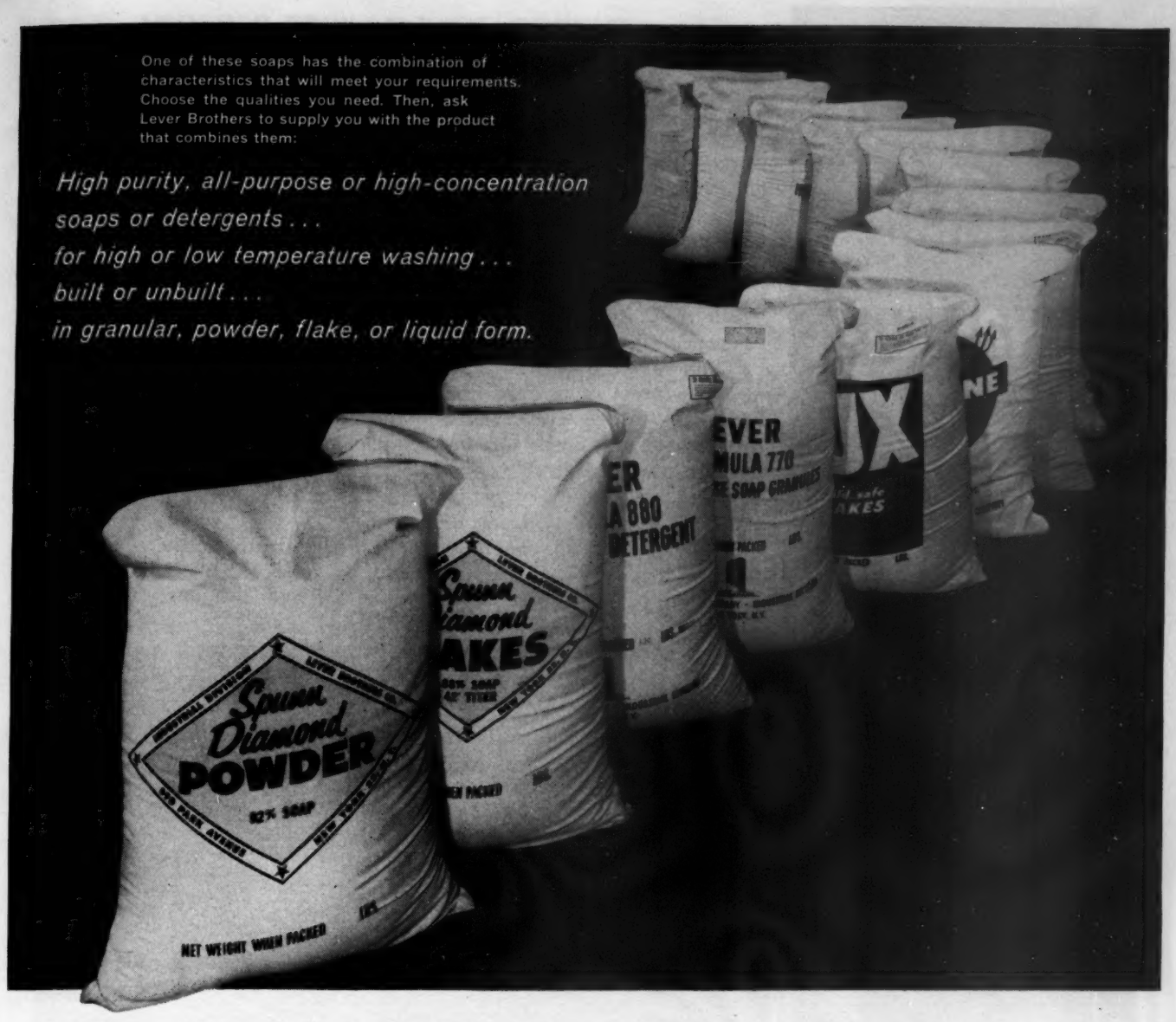
One of these soaps has the combination of characteristics that will meet your requirements. Choose the qualities you need. Then, ask Lever Brothers to supply you with the product that combines them:
High purity, all-purpose or high-concentration soaps or detergents . . .
for high or low temperature washing . . .
built or unbuilt . . .
in granular, powder, flake, or liquid form.
Spunn Diamond POWDER
82% SOAP
NET WEIGHT WHEN PACKED
Spunn Diamond AKES
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MULA 770
A 880
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For every laundering requirement, there's a complete line of Lever industrial soaps and detergents

Lever has every kind of product to meet your specifications for laundering soaps and detergents. Look at the characteristics of these soaps, for example: Spunn Diamond is a high-purity soap, available in chips or powder, for high-temperature operations. Lever Formula 770 is a fine, all-purpose, spray-dried granular soap with an effective water softener and optical whitening agent. Lux Flakes is a pure, mild, unbuilt flake soap for low temperature washing of sheer, delicate fabrics and colors.

Lever Formula 880 is one of Lever's fine line of detergents. It is a spray-dried, granular, built, all-purpose synthetic with an excellent whitening agent that is stable to bleach.

All Lever industrial soaps and detergents are made with the same skill and rigorous control that goes into the line of famous Lever soaps for home use. Scientific testing facilities at Lever's laboratories assure continuing high purity and quality in every bag and drum.

Get in touch with your Lever distributor. For the name of your nearest distributor, write to Lever Brothers today. Lever Brothers will also be glad to supply you with free sample containers of Lever formulations, so you can test and see for yourself how effectively Lever soaps and detergents can work for you.

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Circle No. 22 on Post Card

How to keep washing cost down

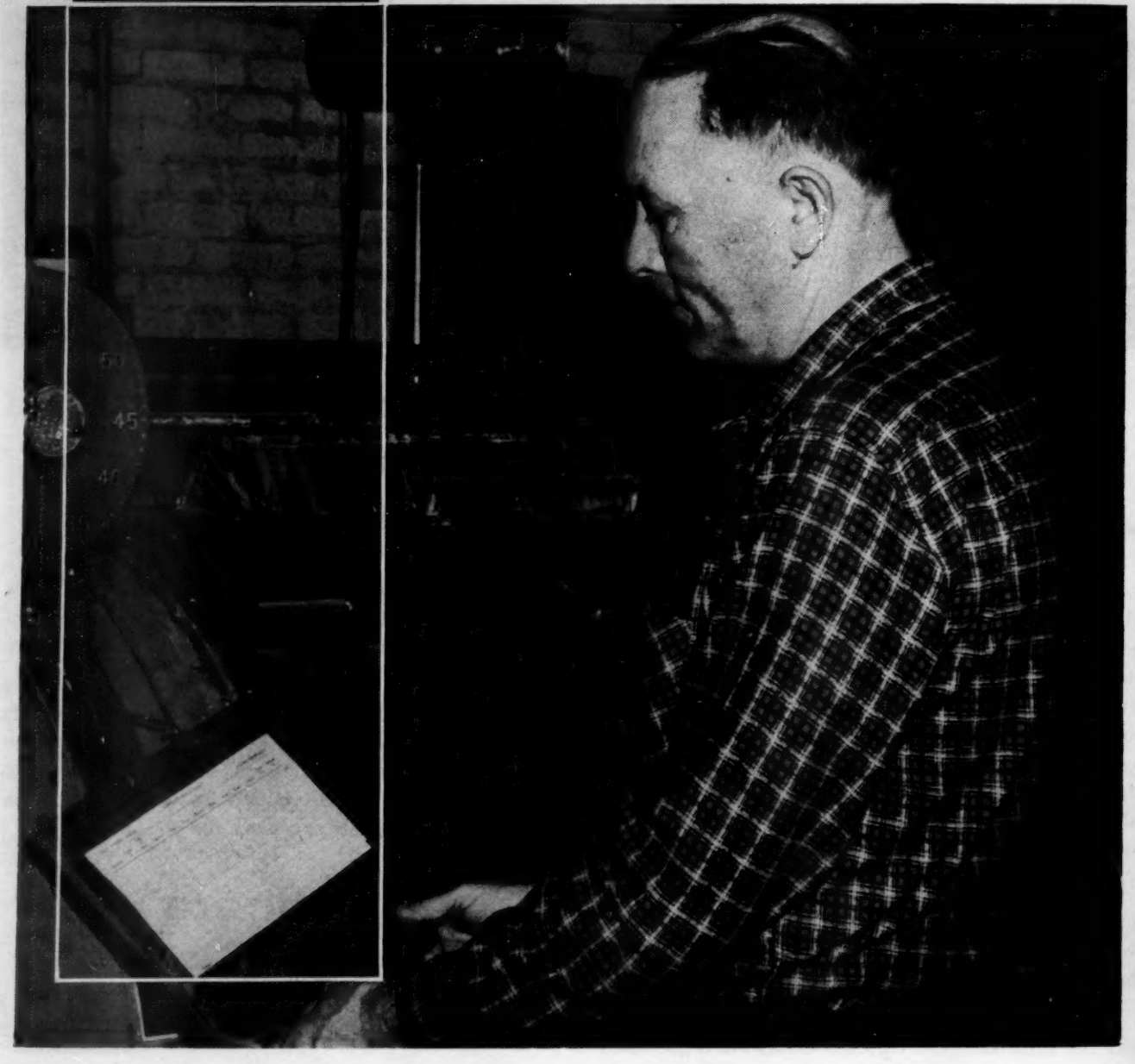
An ironclad system of washroom control plus carefully worked up formulas have enabled Charles Woodworth of the Maryland Penitentiary to hold his cost per 100 pounds of wash processed to 17 cents. Compared to the average cost in the area, which runs between 25 and 35 cents per 100 pounds, this is a rockbottom figure.

The low cost seems even more remarkable when one realizes that most of the linens this LM handles are considerably more soiled than those in average institutions. Penitentiary linens, for instance, making up two thirds of his load, are changed only once weekly. A good deal of his other work comes from senile and incontinent hospital patients and includes operating linens.

According to Woodworth, tight controls applied when stocks are issued plus unscheduled checks held frequently to make sure that formulas are adhered to, are at the core of his success.

Rather than following the usual method of making each washman responsible for the measuring of the supplies to his machine, Woodworth has made one man custodian for issuing measurements to the plant's four wheels.

Whenever a machine is about to be loaded, a checker weighs the load with the supply man.



ANOTHER RESILLO DEVELOPMENT

Resillo PRESS-KLEEN MITT

for cleaning and polishing press heads

while press is hot!

Reverse side of Mitt showing polishing surface.

Makes cleaning and polishing cabinet shirt presses easy, fast, safe . . . *While press is hot!*

with any type cleaning compound

IMPROVES QUALITY OF PRESSING
by providing a smooth, clean pressing head.

INCREASES PRODUCTION
by removing all residue from pressing heads.

MINIMIZES "DO-OVERS"
by eliminating sticking of work to press heads.

EASY TO USE: Press-Kleen Mitt fits easily, permits cleaning and polishing while press is *hot* and protects arms and hands from burns.

ECONOMICAL: Based on normal use, Press-Kleen Mitt will serve perfectly for many months.

CONSTRUCTION: Press-Kleen Mitt is sturdily constructed of metal mesh, plasticized-treated asbestos, and heat-reflecting foil, combined with an abrasive for cleaning and a soft, smooth side for polishing.

Contact your jobber today — he has them in stock. **$8.95 each**

WORLD'S LARGEST EXCLUSIVE MANUFACTURERS OF METAL

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Circle No. 33 on Post Card

PENITENTIARY WHITE WORK

Water

Operation Number	Operation	Temperature	Level	Min.	Supplies Per 100 Lbs.
1	Flush	100	12"	3	None
2	Suds	160*	6"	10	½ lb Built Soap ¼ lb Orthosilicate*
3	Suds	160	6"	8	¼ lb Built Soap
4	Suds-Bleach	160	6"	10	1½ Oz Dry Bleach 10 Oz Tetraphosphate
5	Rinse	160	12"	3	None
6	Rinse	160	12"	3	None
7	Rinse	140	12"	3	None
8	Rinse	110*	12"	3	None
9	Sour-Blue	90	5-8"	8	1½ Oz Sour 1 Oz Blue

* Because dirt is more deeply imbedded in penitentiary linen, Woodworth uses, three suds operations, a hotter rinse and orthosilicate to get the dirt out.

The supply man then weighs and measures the supplies required for the load and sets them upon the washer in individual metal cups for use by the washman.

Control over the supply man's activities and a record of the entire operation is kept by placing daily washer report sheets on every machine. These contain 13 columns for entries pertaining to the following items: weight of load, time the load was placed in the washer, type of load (hospital white work, penitentiary white work or blue denims), time the load was taken out and the washer number.

Seven more columns pertain to the quantity of each type of material used in each individual load. These are alkali, soap, tetraphosphate, bleach, blue, sour, a wetting agent and starch.

The supply man makes these entries every time a new load is ready for washing. The washman enters the "time in" and "time out" figures. At the end of the day the reports from all the machines are gathered up and totaled, providing figures for the supplies consumed by each machine and the overall supplies used for the four.

At the end of each week the daily totals are transferred to a weekly sheet and then broken down to determine the cost of supplies per pound of laundry.

At the month's end Woodworth checks the "supplies consumed" figure against a physical inventory so that discrepancies will show up immediately.

A further check on supplies being removed from the supply room is made by daily tickets the supply man must leave on Woodworth's desk indicating quantities he has withdrawn. This room, incidentally, is kept under lock and key with only Woodworth and his supply man having a key to it.

Control Assures Accurate Check

According to Woodworth this control system not only assures an accurate check of supplies, but brings any deviation in the formulas to light immediately. He noted two examples of this, both having to do with a greater-than-usual loss of tensile strength revealed during unscheduled tests.

A check revealed that the loss was due to an excessive use of bleach on one occasion, and on the other he found that the washman was using live steam to raise the temperature of water in the wheel.

These unscheduled checks are made with special testers and a reflectometer to determine both the tensile strength of the wash and its whiteness. Woodworth's formulas have consistently held tensile strength loss to one per cent in the fabrics and he usually obtains 98 per cent whiteness retention. This is above AIL "excellent" ratings and about tops for an institutional laundry.

Maryland Penitentiary processes approximately 125,000 pounds of laundry a month. Of this 85,000 pounds is penitentiary wash while linen for two state hospitals comprises the remainder.

Woodworth takes into account that this linen is dirtier than hospital linens by providing three suds operations instead of the normal two for hospital white work, and using orthosilicate in the penitentiary white work because that type alkali gets rid of imbedded dirt better.

Woodworth has found that his supply man, key to the success of his system, does not need previous experience. About all that is essential is an aptitude for figures and a sense of responsibility. Since the job is pleasanter than the other laundry tasks, the men chosen generally apply themselves to it with a will. The present supply man, for instance, is a former flatwork ironer whose diligence attracted Woodworth's attention.

As Woodworth sums his system up, "It depends on constant checking by the LM and by employees he trusts. There is no magic to economy. It simply means hard work." □

BLUE DENIM WORK

Water

Operation Number	Operation	Temperature	Level	Min.	Supplies Per 100 Lbs.
1	Flush	100	12"	3	None
2	Suds	140	6"	8	½ lb Built Soap ½ lb Meta-Silicate
3	Suds	140	6"	8	10 Oz Tetraphosphate
4	Rinse	140	12"	3	None
5	Rinse	130	12"	3	None
6	Rinse	120	12"	3	None
7	Rinse	100	12"	3	None
8	Sour	90	6"	5	1½ Oz Sour

Another single-ironer laundry department finds

IT PAYS TO MECHANIZE FLATWORK FINISHING

Continuous conditioning of extracted flatwork at the rate of 800 lbs. dry wt. per hour is provided by this Rotaire Tumbler. Eliminates slow, costly manual shakeout of both large and small pieces.

Weekly production boosted to 30,000 lbs. with 4 fewer operators!

That's the difference flatwork mechanization made at Eastland Hotel, Portland, Me. – and with one 6-roll ironer! The tremendous cost savings that resulted was the obvious key benefit; but it was only one of many. Others include: better utilization of floor space, elimination of lost time between classifications, better quality work, and much faster return of linens to service.

Mechanization also relieved operators of many monotonous, back-breaking chores—made working in the laundry much easier—boosted employee morale.

Eastland Hotel's flatwork mechanization is another example of how American helps institution laundries of all types and sizes plan for most economical operation. After making a comprehensive survey, American engineers prepared a detailed plant layout which enabled Laundry Manager Carl L. Mason to see at a glance how mechanizing would streamline his flatwork operation, save labor and increase production.

Find out how mechanized flatwork finishing will increase the efficiency and productivity of your laundry. For complete information, call your nearby American Man from the Factory, or mail coupon below.

Automatically conveyed to operator, large pieces are placed on Sager "A" Spreader which opens and smooths them for fast, easy feeding to ironer. Small pieces continue on conveyor directly to feeders at ironer.

High-speed folding of both large and small pieces is done automatically by Trumatic Folder directly from ironer. Folder automatically transfers back and forth from single to double lane for large or small pieces.

The American Laundry Machinery Company, Cincinnati 12, Ohio

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The American Laundry Machinery Company, Cincinnati 12, Ohio

Send me complete information on Mechanized Flatwork Ironing.

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Circle No. 3 on Post Card

How to sort patients' personal clothes

An ingenious visible file system, plus two sets of bins, have enabled Northville State Hospital to cut sorting time 50 per cent and save on space and labor.

Visible file and small bins (top) working in conjunction with big bins (bottom), cut sorting time of patients' clothes in half.

By Kenneth Tregear
LM, Northville State Hospital

The sorting of patients' personal clothes has always presented difficulties to the LM. But since TB hospitals, and now most mental institutions, give patients clothing tailored to fit, it is imperative that a simple, economical system be set up.

Among the problems facing the laundry manager are that he has only a limited area to sort in and a limited number of workers he can employ. In the case of the LM of a mental hospital there's the added problem of having to use patient help so that any method devised must be easy to carry out and easy to learn.

At present, two sorting methods seem to be in general use. One is sorting into baskets placed on the floor while keeping ward lots separate until the sorting is finished. The second method is to sort into a series of shelving, piece by piece, using colored tape to identify the article as to ward.

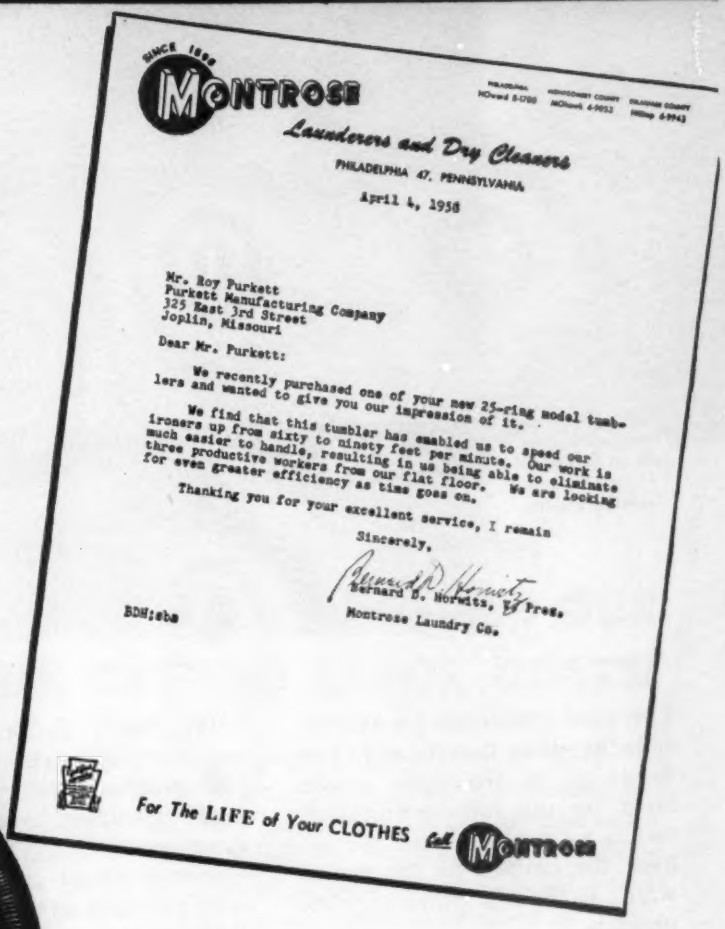
The second method is most popular but suffers from basic disadvantages. It entails considerable walking from sorting tables to shelves, and demands too large a corps of workers to be economical.

At Northville we have developed a system that is both efficient and cheap. It has halved sorting time and enabled us to segregate the clothes of 2,200 patients, located in 42 wards, in a compact area of 25 by 50 feet. Only six patient helpers, plus one employee supervisor, are needed.

In our hospital, as in most institutions, we sort by ward only.

"Increased Ironer Speed from 60 to 90 ft. per minute" with a Purkett *25*-ring 72-inch PCT

That's the sort of performance of interest to every laundry manager. But it is only one of the many reasons why Purkett's new 25-ring 72" Pre-Drying Conditioning Tumbler is producing such magnificent results for its users . . . . reducing processing time, yet improving the quality of conditioning of garments and flat-work.



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April 4, 1958

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Thanking you for your excellent service, I remain

Sincerely,

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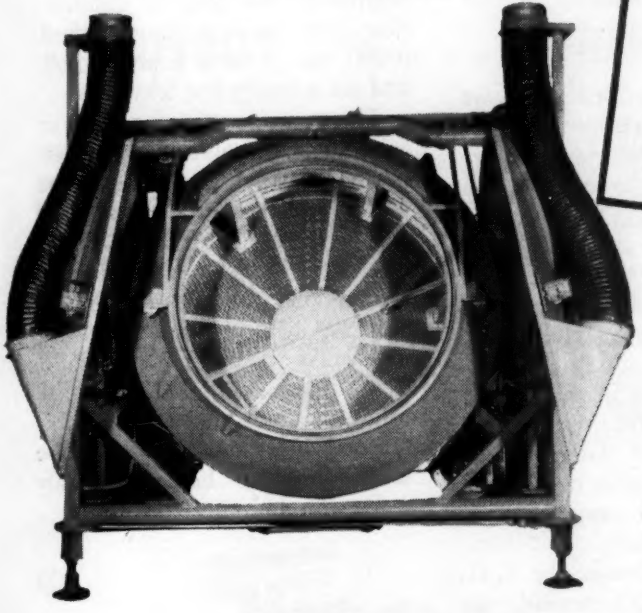

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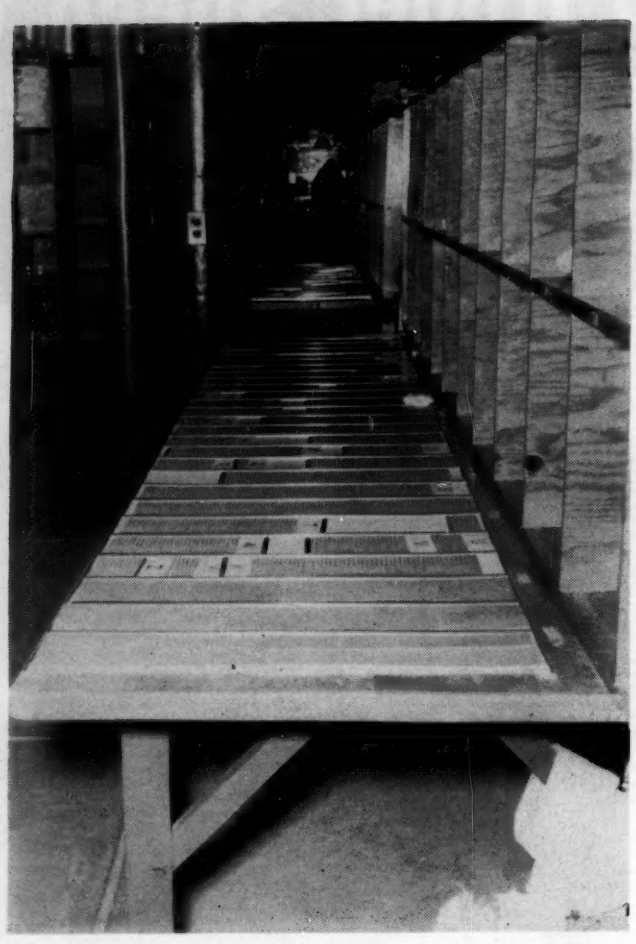


Bins, divided by wards, directly above visible file giving patient's ward location, provide fast, almost foolproof method for sorting clothes.

The ward attendants are responsible for seeing that the right garments go to the right people. Since we use full identification, this is no problem once we deliver the clothes to the proper ward. Doing this, however, is the problem.

Originally, we kept a patient file in two ledgers, one for men and one for women. The ward number was placed next to the name. However, this entailed going through the ledger for each item, a time-wasting process if ever there was one.

Then we switched to a ledger that lay flat on the sorting table. This eliminated riffling pages, so from that point of view it was fine. But since patients were admitted, discharged and reassigned to new wards daily, the ledger became outdated before you could say "Jack Robinson." In addition, the paper pages tore and became illegible after a short time, necessitating retyping.

We finally decided that we would set up a visible file. We laid aluminum strips (such as are used for holding down linoleum) down on the sorting tables. Then four-inch visual line-dex strips were procured on which we typed the patient's case file number and name. We set these alphabetically on the table.

The advantages of this visible file are considerable. We can add or remove names without difficulty. The name cards do not tear or wear out and names can be located immediately.

To increase further the flexibility of this arrangement, we pencil in the patients' ward numbers rather than having them typed so that the erasure and writing of a new number in the case of a transfer, becomes a matter of moments.

A second problem confronted us, however, aside from this of filing. After items had been properly identified as to ward, we used to store them in a series of large shelving. This shelving had ample capacity, but was isolated from the sorting area. Workers had to shuttle between marking tables and shelves with bundles of clothes.

The first step we took to get over this hurdle was the division of the marking table into specific areas for each of the wards. Then we built bins at the back of the table to work in conjunction with these marked off areas.

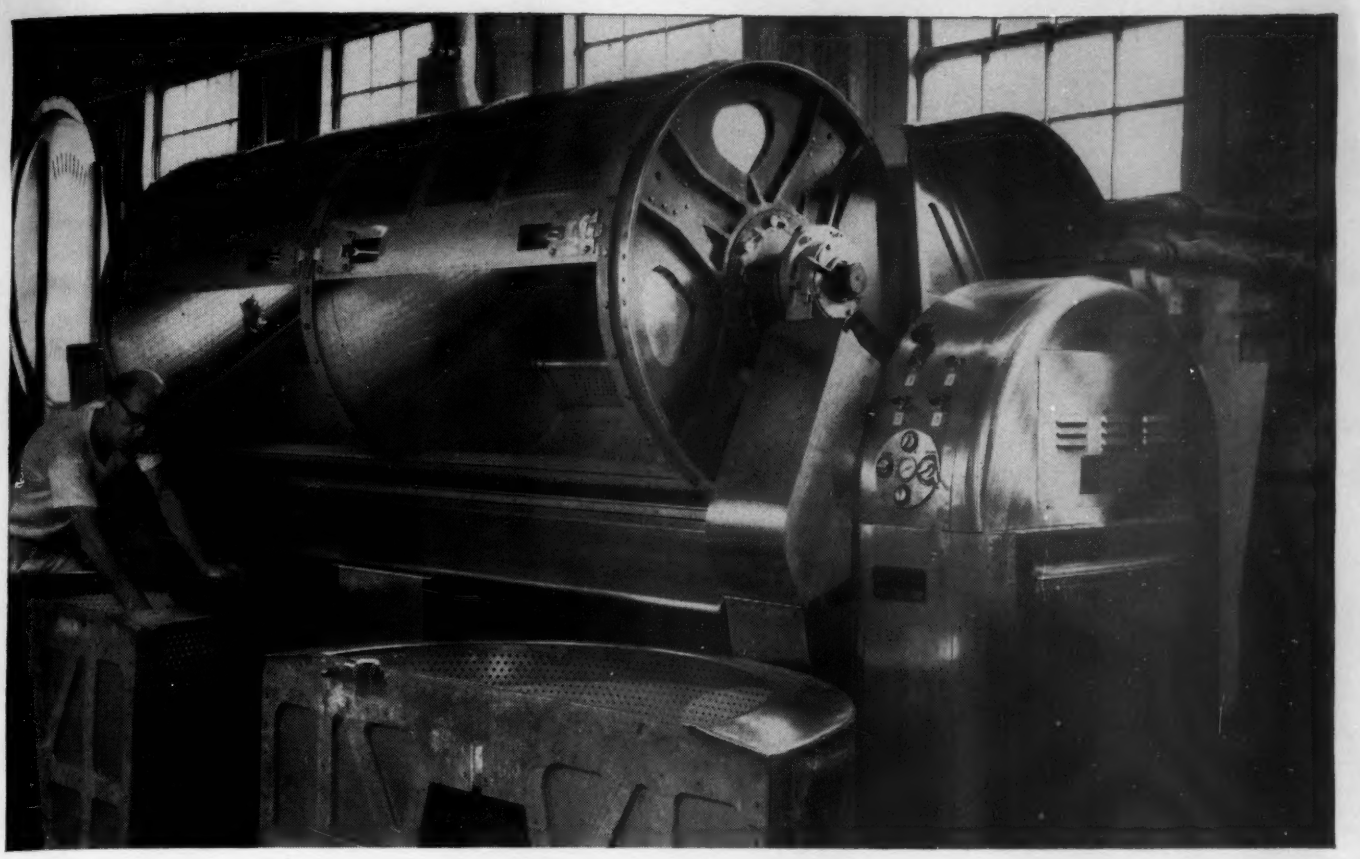
We measured shirts, dresses, trousers, etc., and found that a bin 14 inches high by 12 inches wide would take care of our needs nicely.

Once these were set up we were ready to gun ahead. Clothes were first identified as to ward by our visible file, then inserted in the bins according to ward number. When a bin was full, and only then, the clothes were transferred to our larger shelving. This method of temporary storing proved an enormous time and work saver. And as I said in the beginning, working in conjunction with our new filing method, it cut our sorting time in half, and we actually use less help.

The cost of setting up such an arrangement should not be large. Hospitals having shelving and tables, and most do, would need only a visible file and small bins. But even if the cost does seem a little high, the savings in the long run in both time and labor will make it well worth while. There is the additional advantage for the mental hospital, that this method is so simple it can be taught patients' helpers in only a very few minutes. □

About the author

Kenneth Tregear has been LM at Northville State Hospital since it opened five years ago. He had managed two other institutional laundries previously to that.



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TIPS BY QUINN

We've visited a lot of LMs who have worked out excellent systems of linen control, work flow, incentives, etc. But it wasn't until we dropped in on James Quinn of the Suburban Hotel, East Orange, N. J., that we came across a man full of those small practical tips that really add up to big time and money savers.

Jim's laundry services both his hotel and another in the New Jersey area. It turns out 10,000 pounds a week. His equipment isn't large — a two-roll flatwork ironer, a 30-inch extractor, a 36-inch tumbler, etc.—but through his genius at finding shortcuts, he makes his machines work at a peak of efficiency.

On this and a succeeding page are four tips he gave us that he thinks should help other LMs with similar, or even larger operations. No equipment is required or any elaborate carpentering. They are simply a result of using brain power to save elbow grease. And results have proven their value.

MAKING THE GREASE OPERATION EASY: On too many pieces of laundry equipment the grease cups are not only set in out-of-the-way spots but are covered with a metal lid bolted to the wall of the machine. When you want to grease, you have to unbolt the lid. Then you have to rebolt it after greasing. What I do is drill a hole in the lid, fit an extension pipe through the hole and bring the grease cup outside the machine wall. In this way I can grease without spending time bolting and unbolting.

CLEANING THE LINT SCREEN ON SMALL TUMBLERS: On many small tumblers you'll find the lint screen bolted to the lint box. To delint the screen you have to remove the bolts fastening it to the box, clean off the screen area, then bolt the screen back to the box. This takes only a sentence to describe, but the operation consumes

many annoying minutes. This is one reason lint screens are not cleaned as often as they should be. We don't use the screen that came with our tumbler anymore. Instead we've fixed up a kind of chicken net that fits tightly over the lint hole without any bolting. When we want to clean it, we simply lift it off. We put it back by fitting it snugly over the hole again.

In connection with this, we keep a large pail of water in back of the tumbler. The operator who delints the screen simply scrapes the lint into the pail. At the end of the day the porter spills out the water and refills the pail. This eliminates the fire hazard of large clusters of dry lint gathered in any one area during an entire day's work. It's both safe and sanitary.

more tips by Quinn on page 46

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sanitizes like the sun

Impart spring freshness every day to *all* your work with this quality, all-purpose sour.

Sani-Sour is high in neutralizing power. Completely soluble, dry or in stock solution.

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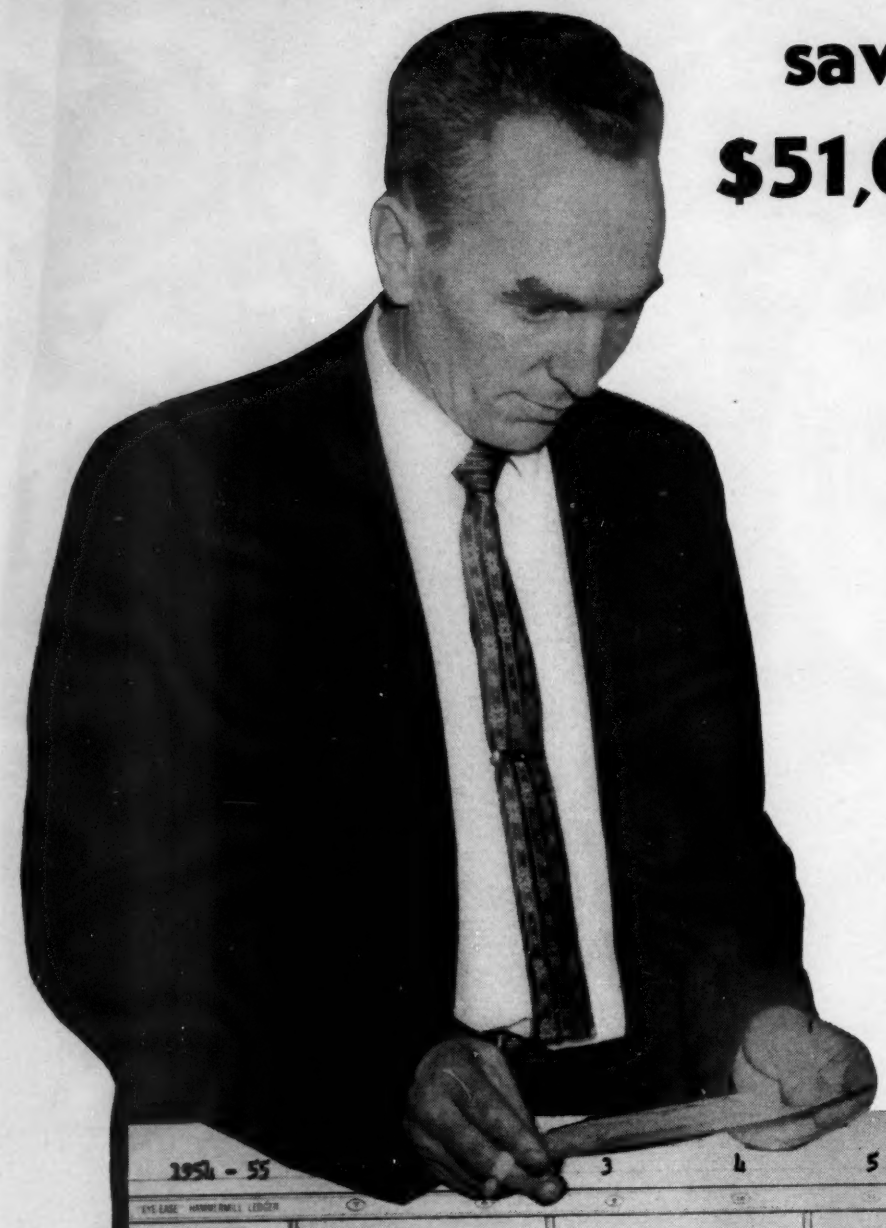
Precision cost control system saves laundry $51,000 a year



If there's one word you hear more than any other from LMs, it's economy. The reason being that the LM who has established his cost-cutting ability in the minds of directors is in an enviable position indeed.

That's why we went on a second visit to James J. Mahoney, Jr., of the Massachusetts General Hospital. (You probably recall the article we ran last December on his "No Cost Incentive Plan.") We had heard that if any LM was a cost wizard Mahoney was, and he would be quite happy to share his ideas.

This LM's cost wizardry was confirmed quickly. He told us that he had within the last year or so reduced laundry costs by $.0015 a pound. When he further informed us that that figure, multiplied by the 4,500,000 pounds he processes annually,

1954 - 55

		salaries & wages	overtime	W.C.A.	washing supplies	machine supplies	ironing supplies	machine repairs	equipment	
Period	1	02363	00232	00028	00039	(00002)	00028	—	—	076
	2	02304	00184	(00027)	00153	—	00032	00033	—	059
	3	02371	00116		00037	00004	00081	00090	00055	070
	4	02337	00161		00229	—	00009	00121	—	070
	5	02282	00162		00101	00014	00030	00018	—	098
	6	02248	00214		00054	00026	00011	00058	—	017
	7	02284	00290		00117	00004	00037	00024	—	077
	8	02334	00312		00214	00003	—	00057	00020	074
	9	02345	00268		00056	00003	00017	00032	—	013
	10	02429	00312		00134	00001	00020	00066	00241	063
	11	02201	00319		00068	—	00309	00010	00013	061
	12	02108	00297		00158	00010	00315	00120	—	058
	13	02028	00273		00093	00002	00033	00122	—	054

By keeping a hawk eye on each expenditure, James Mahoney of Massachusetts General can hold laundry costs to a minimum, estimate next year's budget with bullseye accuracy

totals up to a saving of $51,750, we knew that if anyone could give us insight into cutting costs it was Mahoney.

His technique can be summed up quickly: break your costs down into precise classifications and maintain a hawk-eyed check of each item. But the setting up of the method and keeping it running takes constant attention.

With Mahoney's system costs are entered into 16 classifications. These are: wages, overtime, workman's compensation insurance, washing supplies, machine supplies, ironing supplies, machine repairs, equipment purchases, steam, water, electricity, gas starch, freight, miscellaneous and uncontrollable.

He divides the fiscal year into 13 periods of four weeks each. For every period the actual cost per pound of the 16 classifications is recorded. This provides him with a cost per pound record of each classification at four week intervals.

What this can mean as far as catching a discrepancy, we'll see in just a moment, but first, let's run through the meaning of each classification since some of them are not in general use.

The Meanings of Classifications

Wages are self explanatory. Washing supplies (soaps, bleaches, bluing, textile softeners), include all items that supply cleaning power to the washing operation. Ironing supplies include covers, aprons, waxes and oils. Machine supplies include oil, grease and hydraulic fluids. Machine repairs include only repairs done by outside help. Those repair costs that require the services of the laundry's own mechanics are listed in the wages column.

Equipment purchases are written off on a cost per pound basis during the period when the equipment was purchased only.

"This saves us unnecessary bookkeeping," explains Mahoney. "If we purchased equipment five times in one year and tried to apportion costs to every period equally, we would have to make something like 65 calculations. This way we make only five, and we're just as accurate."

Steam, water and gas are obvious classifications, and since these utilities are metered, there is no chance of error. Electricity is charged on a pro-rated basis according to the number of laundry motors, operating kilowatt hours and other factors that were determined in a survey.

Starch and freight are rarely used. When and if the laundry breaks down and work has to be shipped to another plant, that charge would be listed under starch. The freight column refers to charges by distributors for shipping supplies.

Into the miscellaneous section go such items as nurses' uniforms damaged and paid for by the laundry, stationery supplies and other operating expenses not accounted for elsewhere.

10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	total of 1, 2, & 3		
⊙	⊙	⊙								
[illegible]	electric.	gas	starch	freight	Misc.	uncontroll.	Maint. (repairs)	total of 1, 2, & 3	total cost/lb.	production
.076	.00018	.00069	—	—	—	.00610	—	.03623	.03329	327093
.050	.00032	.00059	—	—	.00013	.00581	—	.03461	.03787	341378
.070	.00039	.00085	—	—	.00007	.00608	—	.03487	.03936	330806
.070	.00039	.00064	—	—	.00001	.00595	—	.03498	.04059	331071
.098	.00037	.00041	—	—	.00010	.00564	—	.03444	.03626	351593
.017	.00074	.00051	—	—	.00009	.00565	—	.03532	.03735	345497
.077	.00017	.00060	—	—	.00019	.00533	—	.03216	.03382	353243
.074	.00017	.00055	—	—	.00014	.00562	—	.03440	.03969	342391
.013	.00016	.00053	—	—	.00027	.00544	—	.03611	.03880	349866
.063	.00017	.00064	—	—	—	.00561	—	.03741	.04169	309011
.061	.00016	.00127	—	—	.00019	.00546	—	.03520	.03970	316006
.058	.00016	.00018	—	—	.00006	.00537	—	.03405	.03759	330424
.054	.00014	.00076	.00070	—	.00016	.00491	—	.03301	.03654	317918

Repairs by the laundry's own mechanic helps keep costs down.

The last classification, uncontrollable, divides approximately $2,300 a year equally among the 13 periods to account for indirect expenses such as administrative overhead, telephone, routine maintenance, elevator service and housekeeping—all provided for by the hospital. This figure is based on the hospital's previous years' cost accounting.

We asked Mahoney why he breaks costs down as precisely as he does.

"That's the only way they're valuable," he explained. "The purpose of figures is to mean something; to help you find out what has suddenly jumped your costs or why your operation has become inefficient. The more the figures are broken down, and the oftener they are calculated the faster discrepancies and inefficiencies can be caught. Let me give you an example.

"During two consecutive periods I noticed a jump in our gas cost per pound of laundry from $.00055 to $.00081. An insignificant figure you might think. But I began a check. There was no difference in production for the two periods which would account for such a rise. I phoned accounting and they said there had been no increase in gas rates.

"It began to look then as if some inefficiency in the laundry was behind the cost jump. I started an inspection of all gas-operated equipment. I found a worn gasket on one machine but that couldn't have caused the amount of rise we noted. Then poking my nose in an out-of-the-way spot in the plant I discovered a collapsed fire box in the back of one unit. That was my villain. Its flame was partially shooting out, consuming gas at a terrible rate.

"Now if this equipment had gone unrepaired for the remaining nine periods of the fiscal year, the laundry would have footed a bill of $783. As it was we had only two months' cost chalked up against us."

Mahoney doesn't want to convey the impression that every cost rise is due to inefficiency and can be nipped in the bud that fast.

Some Increases Can't Be Helped

One rise he noticed a while ago was an increase in the electricity cost from $.00016 to $.00027. But a preliminary investigation revealed he could do nothing about it. Accounting informed him that rates for electricity had gone up.

"One thing I'm particularly careful about," Mahoney told us, "is the relationship between various items. For instance, if wages go up during one period, overtime should go down. And if it doesn't I investigate.

"One period last year I saw that both wages and overtime had climbed. Unless we had a production rise, something was wrong. Checking I found our poundage had gone up by 10 tons —a sufficient reason for increases in both columns.

"During another period wages climbed and this time we had no production increase. We did, however, have a rise in sick leaves. Now, since the man who is sick is paid his regular wages, but someone else has to do his work, again the increase was justified. If I found, though, that my labor cost stayed at that high plateau, I would try to find out if there was any abuse of sick leaves.

"What I'm getting at here is that, to my mind, these figures are alive. They tell me a story. They tell my director a story. Often they pave the way for considerable economies."

A final set of figures this econonomy-minded IM gave us, proved his point. In 1956 his laundry's cost per pound was $.04627; his poundage was 4,296,355 and his total cost worked out to $198,772.88. In 1957, his poundage had jumped by almost half a million to 4,757,637, but his rise in total cost was less than a thousand dollars —to $199,731.02. The reason? He had lowered his cost per pound by one half a cent, and this had resulted in an extraordinary reduction of the entire cost of operation.

"I wouldn't say," Mahoney cautioned, "that my bookkeeping system was mainly responsible for this reduction—or even largely responsible. But it played an important role in cutting production inefficiencies by catching a faulty operation and by acting as a silent policeman over the employees.

"Incidentally, a precise system such as this has another use. I am asked to submit a budget for the coming year about the eighth fiscal period of the present year. By projecting what happened in the first two thirds of the year, I can estimate to within $200 what the total annual cost will be. This enables me to figure out a highly accurate budget for the coming year.

"I hope I've told you enough," he smiled, "to show you how important figures are."

He certainly had. A fine figure of a man is James J. Mahoney, Jr. of the Massachusetts General Hospital! □

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	6	30″	20″	20½″			
	10	36″	24″	25″	7.00	9.50	1.50
	12	36″	26″	27½″			
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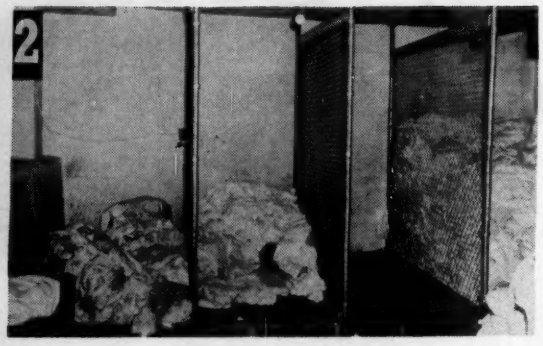
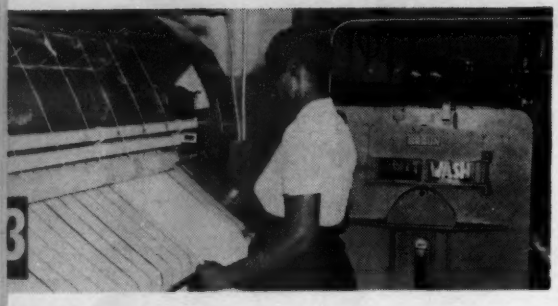
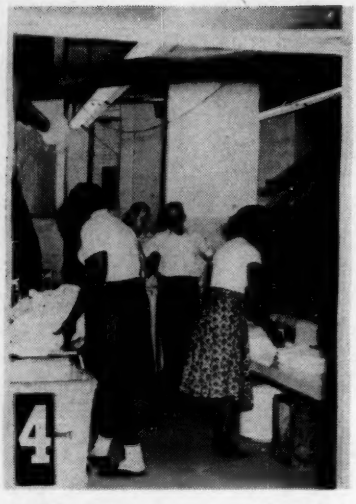




How the Woodner crea



The Woodner is one of the swankiest places to spend the night at the nation's capital, but it suffers from the malady of most hotels in the area. From Easter to mid-June an army of students invade Washington swamping hotels and filling them to 200 per cent of capacity and more.

During this period, when there are frequently as many as five people in a room, the strain on linen facilities becomes terrific. Up until a short time ago the Woodner sent its linens out for processing and had to sweat out delays, occasional losses, and, most important, the very heavy costs that fast service entailed.

The reasons the Woodner did

(1) Harold Bleicher, who set up the laundry, tests the tumbler, set behind a post to make sure it is easy to operate.

(2) Pre-sorting of linen keeps machines always running, plant on time.

(3) Despite equipment being close together, operators have enough room to do their work efficiently.

(4) Work must be folded, sorted and out of the laundry when finished so valuable space won't be wasted.

(5) Outside view of the floating terrace in which the 1,500 foot laundry is located. Arrow points to laundry's door.

The Woodner didn't think it had the 1,500 square feet of space necessary to equip a laundry for its 200 rooms. But area, previously tabbed unusable, plus an investment of $24,000, enabled it to set up a smooth-functioning, modern plant capable of turning out the necessary half million pounds yearly.

Increated' space for a laundry

not process its own linens were the usual ones: lack of space, fear of the heavy cost of setting up a laundry, the high cost of labor, and so on.

However, when pressure on the 200-room building kept growing, with guests being inconvenienced and linen costs rising, a determined effort was made to find space and set up a plant.

Put in charge of this effort was a local cleaning/laundry plantowner, Harold Bleicher, who handled guest drycleaning and had a reputation for being able to find space on a postage stamp.

"I can find enough space in any hotel to set up a laundry," is Bleicher's boast. "There is always some unused area no one knows about and generally there is enough of it to install the machinery needed."

With the Woodner, Bleicher made good his boast. Within a short time he was able to announce to Edward Jason, general manager and Henry Paris, resident manager, that he had found the ideal spot. This was an unused room with a high ceiling under a floating terrace at the back of the building.

"The usable area there," Bleicher points out, "was only 1,500 square feet, not exactly the kind of acreage that one associates with a full scale plant that will process over half a million pounds a year. But it sufficed."

Some tricky maneuvering was necessary to install all the equipment. A tumbler was fitted in behind a post. Instead of conventional washing equipment, a 100-pound washer-extractor was put in. A high, but narrow, cylinder flatwork ironer was purchased. Additional equipment included an apparel unit, carts and tables—and the laundry was all set to go.

Total Cost of Plant

The cost of machinery had come to $16,000, installation was $8,000 so that the total cost to set up the plant was only $24,000.

At first the Woodner went through the usual difficulty of finding the proper help and working out streamlined procedures. But it received an unexpected boost from the fact that Bleicher runs a cleaning/laundry plant in the area and was able to shift some of his help over to the Woodner laundry when emergencies arose.

With this shot in the arm, the laundry was operating in shipshape fashion in short order. Currently 10 employees are knocking out the work in an eight hour day. They have been specially trained to handle several operations so that a girl may be on the flatwork ironer in the morning, and sorting in the afternoon. The purpose is to assure maximum flexibility. The automatic washer-extractor can process 16 loads a day and the washman is busy for only about two minutes a load. This, of course, leaves him free for other work the rest of the day.

Since the laundry is so compact and work must be jammed through at maximum speed, a special sorting system was devised in the old linen room on the floor above. There, four bins were set up, each one for a different type of work. Towels went into one, sheets and pillowcases into another, etc., so that if an emergency call for a particular item came to the laundry, the item could be located immediately and rushed through.

An additional advantage of this pre-sorting is that the LM can tell at a glance what work remains to be done and can schedule it through the laundry.

"Our principal aim," says Bleicher, "is to do the day's work each day. We don't want any-

continued on page 59

The Field Report

by Fritz Field, Consulting Editor

How do I remove difficult stains from general use linens?

Can you test my linens to see if they cause rashes?

Is powdered bleach as effective as liquid bleach?

From the number of letters we have received in the last few months on the problem, staphylococcus aureus seems to be on the minds of hospital LMs everywhere. For not only has the organism been found on woolen blankets soon after laundering, where it might have been anticipated because of the mild formula that must be used on these items, but on pediatric linen as well.

One of our correspondents has written, "Pediatric tumbled linen has grown a positive culture of pathogenic staphylococcus. After the first positive culture, we increased the bleach in our formula to that used for general linen. It still shows a positive culture."

If after the hot water, tumbler heat and all the germicides used in a general formula, linen still becomes contaminated, the seriousness of the situation can readily be perceived. Realizing this, we have made several tests to see if a way could be found to de-contaminate linen *and* render it bacteria static. For a report on a method that seems to solve this serious "staph" problem, see page 14.

Letters reporting other difficulties, and our answers to them, follow:

Q. We operate our own laundry in a 380-bed hospital. Our problem is how to remove stains from general use linen, especially heavy soil, blood and body drainage and excreta stains. At this time we sort out stained linen and give it a special "bloody linen formula," but stains still remain to such an extent that we feel it isn't acceptable for general use. Soaking in a strong bleach solution seems to be very destructive to the linen. Can you suggest anything that might help us?—G.P., Laundry Manager, Denver, Colo.

A. The removal of set stains is a problem every institutional LM faces because many stains cannot be removed in the regular washing process. As you mention, a strong bleach solution can do great harm to the linen, but I think you will find that much less damage will result if you soak the material in a bleach solution prepared with the new organic dry bleaches instead of with sodium hypochlorite. If you have a great quantity of these difficult pieces, I suggest you try this formula.

WASHING FORMULA FOR HEAVY STAINS WHICH ARE NOT REMOVED IN THE REGULAR WASHING PROCESS

TEMPERATURE	WATER LEVEL	TIME	SUPPLIES
140 F	12"	3 min	
160 F	6"	15 min	1 lb. sour
160 F	12"	3 min	
160 F	12"	3 min	
160 F	12"	3 min	
200 F	6"	60 min	5 lbs alkali, pine oil, soap heavy suds
160 F	12"	3 min	
140 F	12"	3 min	
120 F	12"	3 min	
100 F	6"	60 min	2 qts 14% bleach
140 F	12"	3 min	
160 F	12"	3 min	
140 F	12"	3 min	
120 F	12"	3 min	
100 F	12"	3 min	

You may wonder that concentrated 14 per cent bleach is added to the wheel. It is purposely done at a temperature of 100 degrees because at such temperature the chlorine is only slowly released and the damage done to the material is minimal. I picked this formula up at a NAILM conference. It has worked wonders for me.

Q. One of the doctors here complains that a skin rash on some of the patients could be caused by the linens. I use reliable products in washing and feel that my results are good. I am enclosing a pillowcase that has been washed in my regular white linen formula. If you could test it for me and come up

continued on page 50

Double thick, single wrap style.

3 types: Lay-in,
With cotton lead cloth,
With asbestos lead cloth.

Nylon warp and stitching thread throughout.

Easy, fool-proof installation. Illustrated instruction pamphlet with each set of pads.

Minimum packing down — minimum mechanical adjustment.

Fast moisture absorption.

Enduring resilience.

Clean removal — no powdering, no dust and no charred fragments.

Each pad designed and numbered for roll on which it is to be installed.

No Dust
No Powdering
No Charred Fragments

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Circle No. 36 on Post Card

Linen Purchasing

continued from page 16

of the sheet. Examples in the following table illustrate the use of the formula.

TYPE OF SHEET			COST PER USE Substituting known values in the above formula
Thread Count	Size	Fabric	
1. 200	72 × 108	Percale	$\frac{\$3.21 + (430 \times 0.060)}{430} = \$0.674$
2. 180	72 × 108	Percale	$\frac{\$2.50 + (300 \times 0.060)}{300} = \$0.683$
3. 140	72 × 108	Muslin	$\frac{\$2.30 + (300 \times 0.069)}{300} = \$0.0766$

In explaining the "cost of use" column let's take the figures for type 200 as an illustration. $3.21 is the cost of the sheet. The 430 x 0.060 represents the times laundered by the cost of each laundering. (Cost of laundering includes supplies, labor, power, light, water and overhead.) We divide the purchase price plus the total laundering cost by the life expectancy of the sheet. This gives us the cost of the sheet for each individual use.

Life expectancy, by the way, is based on the actual number of launderings, minus 25 per cent to cover types of wear not involved in this experiment. The figure is only an estimate. However, since the same figure was applied to all sheets, the proportion of difference should be similar in all circumstances.

The Heavier Muslin Costs More to Launder

The reader may wonder why the cost of laundering muslin sheets is given as .069 instead of the .060 as given for percale. The figure for muslin is based on a 15 per cent per pound higher laundry cost because of the heavier weight and bulk of muslin. If the soap, water, power, steam and time consumed in laundering each 100 pounds of muslin were used instead in the processing of percale, 115 sheets of the latter type could be handled.

It might be pertinent to point out that even if we disregarded the higher cost per washing of muslin sheets and use the same figure as for percale, muslin would still come out costing slightly more than percale because its life expectancy is about a third less.

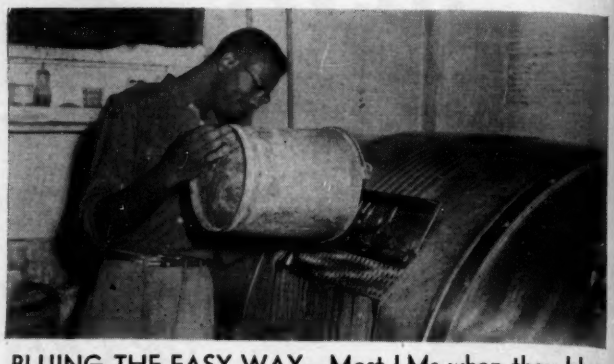
Though economy is the basis for purchasing most linens in hospitals, and percale 200 clearly showed up in this study as being cheaper in the long run, there is another excellent reason for using it. Percale sheets are softer and smoother and kinder to tender skin. They afford the maximum of comfort.

For these reasons we suggest that the hospital using muslin might seriously give thought to changing over to percale 200. We feel both hospital and patient would benefit. □

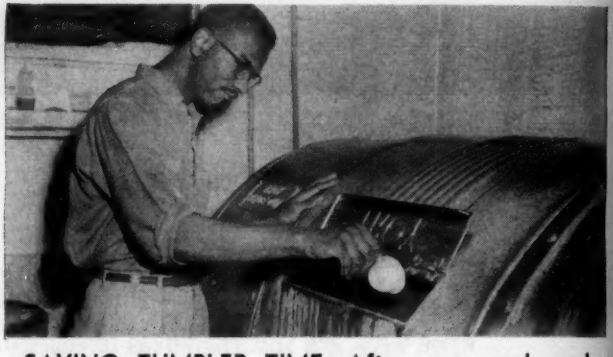
ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Sister Mary Celeste is Director of Laundry and Linen Service and Assistant Administrator of St. Mary's Hospital. Her book, from which this article was taken, "The Institutional Laundry As I See It," has become among the most popular in the field.

TIPS by Quinn

continued from page 36



BLUING THE EASY WAY—Most LMs when they blue at the wheel first dilute the bluing concentrate in a pail of water, then dump the pail into the wheel—as shown below. However, a step is saved if the blue is pre-diluted. For instance, I make up a stock solution of two ounces of concentrated blue to three gallons of water. I then mix one and a half ounces of this stock solution directly into the wheel with a dipper—as shown on the right. This quantity is enough for a 150-pound load. Working the bluing operation this way means that I can dispense with a blue pail and also that I have a step with every load I process.



SAVING TUMBLER TIME: After rugs, pads and spreads have been washed and extracted, I hang them up overnight to dry instead of tumbling them. In the morning they've lost so much moisture that only a few minutes in the tumbler dries them out completely and restores the fluffy look. Let me illustrate how much tumbler time I save. Approximately 400 pounds of rugs come into my laundry every day. The tumbler dries 75 pounds of extracted work an hour. If I put the rugs in directly from the extractor, I'd tie the machine up for a solid four and a half hours. This procedure frees the tumbler for use as a pre-conditioner.

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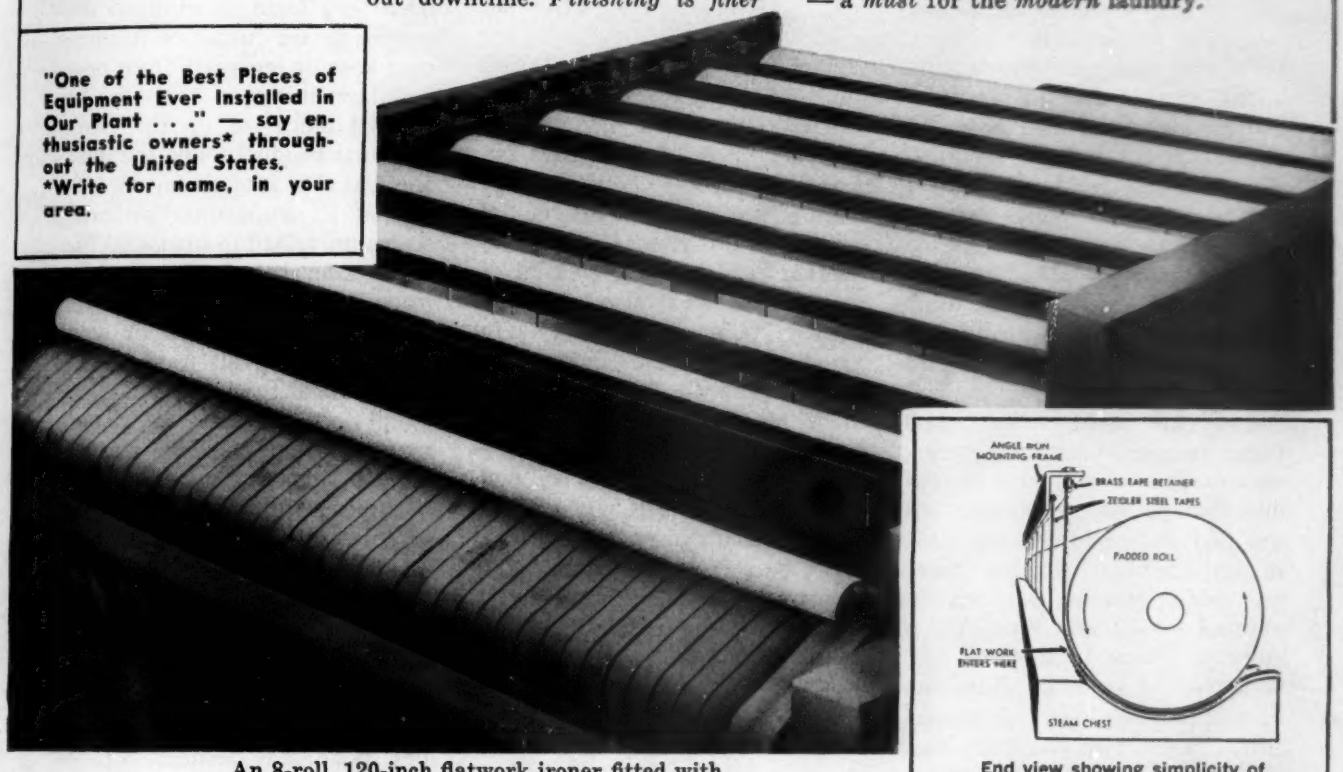

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Circle No. 45 on Post Card

Odds & Ends

No, Edward Piper, LM of the Temple University Hospital isn't aiming to do someone in. Nor does he lead a second life on the side as a TV actor in Westerns. He's just a man with a fascinating hobby that keeps him youthful and in high spirits. Piper is a connoisseur of antique firearms. When he can get his hands on one (they cost a pretty penny), he retires to his den and spends happy hours refurbishing the weapon. He replaces parts, hand polishes the wood with linseed oil, checks the mechanism and insures his wife's being a "gun widow" for weeks. We asked Piper, whose youthful appearance made it seem almost incredible that he had a 20-year old son and is one of the top LMs in Philadelphia, whether there was any connection between his unusual hobby and managing a laundry. "None I can think of," he answered at first. But then he snapped his fingers as an idea struck him. "You could say that one of the antique guns works along the same lines as some institutional laundries. The bullet to be fired is in one chamber and several reserve bullets are in a separate chamber. When the shell in the firing chamber has been ejected, you point the gun up and gravity pulls the waiting shell down into position to be fired. Now that's the same principle as the gravity-feeding of linens to the lower floors of a multi-storied operation. But that's positively the only connection I can think of."

The importance of the hospital laundry is steadily winning greater recognition among administrators from all indications we receive. For example, we were happy to see that in the February issue of *The Stethoscope,* news organ of New York City's Columbia-Presbyterian Medical Center, the featured story was on John Nelan's laundry department. This was a cause of double rejoicing to us, incidentally, since the hospital's story was carried in our very first issue, that of June, 1957.

Are you the ideal boss? You are, according to the National Office Management Association's recent poll, if you're a man between 40 and 49 years of age with a high degree of managerial skill who is eminently fair to workers and has a good deal of common sense. It also helps, the survey points out, if you're "highly intelligent, understanding and fair." Oddly enough, none of your help will mind if you're a little impatient at times; you can show a touch of bad temper at others. If you tend to be lazy, that's okay too. But you can't be a grouch. And if you're constructed along Clark Gable's lines, that goes a long way with the older female employees. In short, it seems that the ideal LM is all things to all people—and then some. (P.S. No matter what the polls say, and no matter where you fit in with the foregoing qualifications, you yourself know very well whether or not you're a good boss. So do your employees.)

LMs are among the most practical people we know, at least that's the impression we have gotten after attending their meetings. We've also been to sessions of business magnates and what they seem to wind up discussing is the future of business next year or ten years from now, and how they can raise the industrial index, or up the Gross National Product. Now the average LM that gets up on his hind legs at an association gathering seems interested in questions like these: Can he run his flatwork ironer decently at less than 100 pounds of pressure? Is he using enough sour in his formula? Or even, should the laundry floor be swept once or twice a day? These may seem like picayune matters, but we think it reveals a much healthier attitude than trying to solve all the big problems at one swoop. A kind of "watch the pennies and the dollars will take care of themselves" idea. □

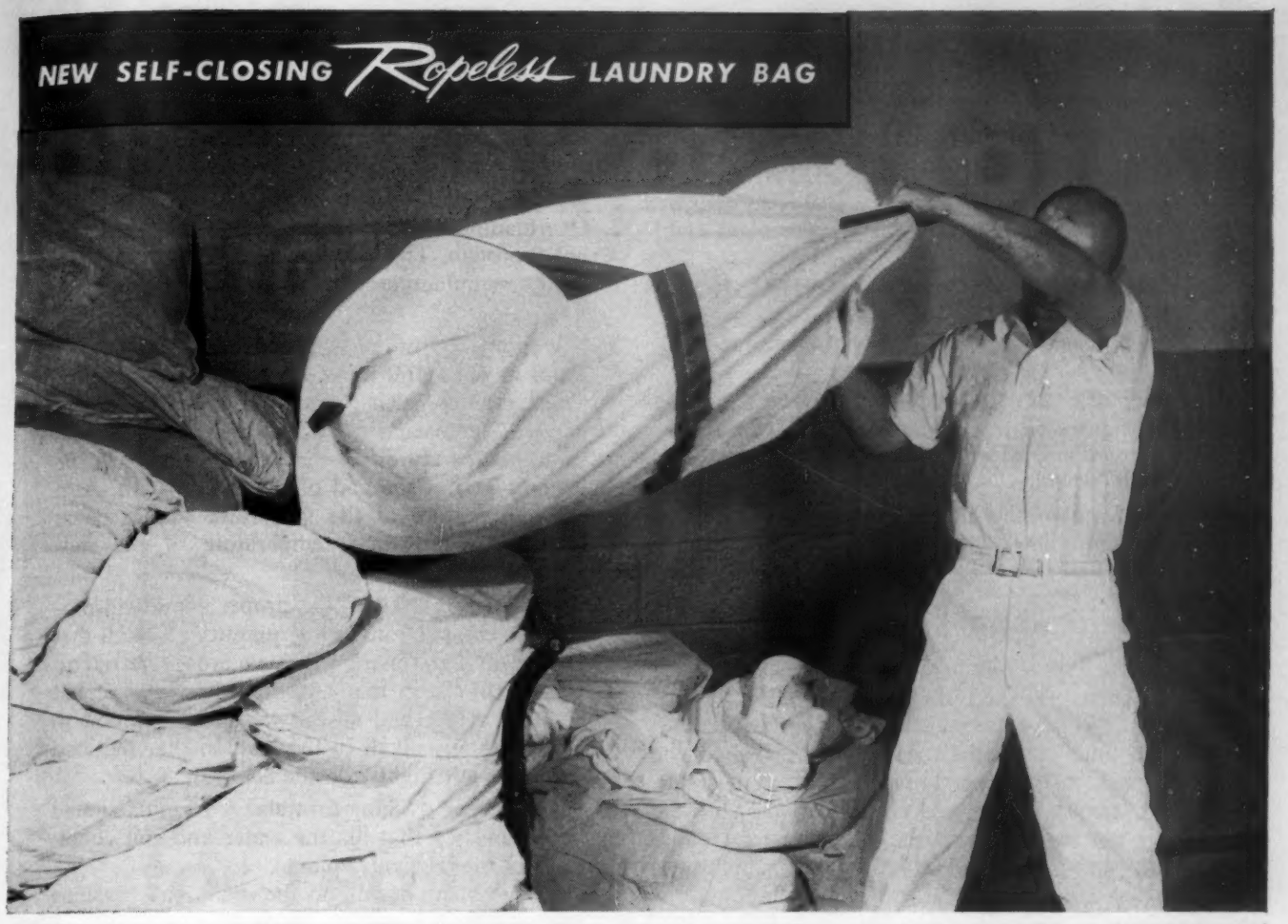
Coast to Coast

continued from page 6

Hospital, Portland, talking on linen control; Fred Scurlock of Wyandotte, informing the LMs of the wide range of chemical advice and help chemical supply houses can make available to them; Betty Waller, R.N., of San Francisco's St. Luke's Hospital, reporting on the continual bettering of relationships between the LM and nurses; Paul Wolf, Cedars of Lebanon LM, speaking about linen control from the laundry manager's point of view; Ben Heath of the American Laundry Machy. Co., painting an exciting picture of what future equipment would be like, and Frank Roff, VA LM advising members how to keep abreast of the times. A special session, at which some top medical authorities spoke, was devoted to problems rising out of staphylococcus infection. (See our special article, page 14, on how to lick the staph.)

Optimism from Minnesota

Gale Wells of the Minnesota Association, reports that hospitals in his area are expanding and "in all cases enlarging and modernizing their laundries." To capitalize on this bullish tendency and develop the activities of the association to the full is the promise of the following new officers: Donald C. Sable, pres.; Arlie W. Dupont, vp, and Gale H. Wells, secy.-treas. The association held its last meeting a while ago and signed off for the summer. □



Prevents accidental spilling; reduces cross-infection; safe to use in mental wards, too

Now! An entirely new hamper bag, designed for fast, really safe laundry handling. Hartford Self-closing Ropeless Bags seal in all soiled linen — without ropes, tapes, or ties. They're safe to use in mental wards, too. With no ropes, there's no risk to patients —no chance for casualties or accidents of any kind.

The secret lies in the bag's self-enveloping, flap-top design. When the bag is full, the attendant simply pulls the flap over the top; turns the bag upside down. The weight of its contents forces the flap tightly closed. Built-in pocket-type grips on the bottom make it easy to handle. Ideal for chutes.

Hartford Self-closing Ropeless Bags come in a wide range of color codings, fabrics, and in standard or special hamper sizes. For details, ask your dealer or write:

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COMING NEXT ISSUE!

- **STREAMLINE YOUR WORK FLOW.** Charts, diagrams and down-to-earth methods to enable you to cut waste movement in your plant and save money.
- **LINEN CONTROL IN THE MENTAL HOSPITAL.** A comprehensive treatment of linen control problems facing the LM of the large mental institution.
- **THE AIR CONDITIONED LAUNDRY.** Facts and figures on the effectiveness and cost of an air conditioning set-up in a 14,000 square foot hospital laundry.

. . . . . plus other up-to-the-minute information-packed, stimulating features and departments

The Field Report

continued from page 44

with an answer to this problem, I would appreciate it very much.—W.C., LM, Shelby, N. C.

A. Every LM seems to get blamed for skin rashes at some time or another. These rashes cannot be traced back to improper laundering in many cases. However, every LM should check to make sure the linen is not responsible since many factors, cause harshness in textiles even when the best supplies are used. Here are the major factors:

1. Water hardness. This can be overcome by using a water softener and the proper alkali. If no treatment is used, suds break down, stick to the linen and cause a stiffness in the fabric.
2. Overloading of washwheels so that the rinsing is not thorough. The solution here, of course, is to follow manufacturer directions on loading capacity.
3. Not enough hot water. You must have enough hot water at 150 - 160 degres F. to use the high titer soaps that do such a fine job on white cotton goods. The bleach operation also demands the same temperature so that the bleach will be decomposed at the end of the bleach bath. Also the temperature of the first rinse should be at least as high as the temperature of the suds operation.
4. Improper alkali. Using the proper alkali will provide cleaning action with a quantity of alkali that can easily be rinsed. Silicates are preferred to weaker alkalis in many institutions. Sour should be used at the end of the washing operation to neutralize any alkali in the load so that the load would be left slightly on the acid side.
5. An improper washing formula. A formula should be established that fits the water and soil conditions of the particular plant.

Your problem seems to be with the washing

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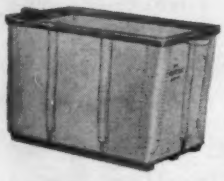

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- Prevents pinholing and iron discoloration
- Improves whiteness
- Reclaims mildewed linen

Unlike hypochlorite bleaches, Wyandotte HALOX — *the original organic bleach* — keeps tensile-strength loss down. That's because of the built-in safety feature of HALOX: chlorine is released a little at a time, as it is being used.

HALOX is simple to use, safe to handle; you add it dry to the wheel. No danger of spilling and causing damage; no need to worry about misusing it. And as for economy, consider this: just 100 lbs. of HALOX will bleach more than 80,000 lbs. of white work! You'll agree, that's pretty impressive tonnage!

You owe it to yourself — and your customers — to investigate HALOX for your bleaching needs. Get all the facts from your Wyandotte jobber or representative today. *Wyandotte Chemicals Corporation, Wyandotte, Michigan. Also Los Nietos, California. Offices in principal cities.*

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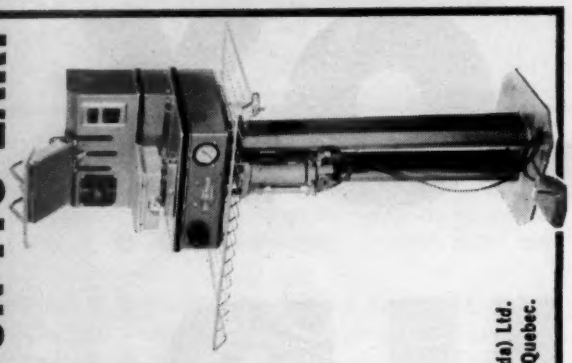

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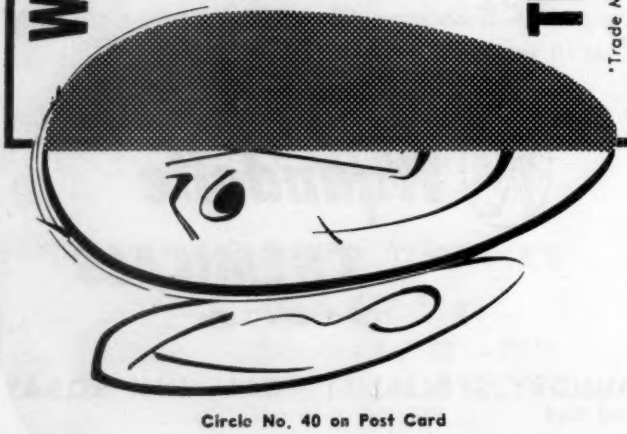

Circle No. 40 on Post Card

formula. I submitted the pillowcase you sent me to a laboratory and testing showed an excessive use of sour. The pH of white linen should be between 6 and 6.5 while your pillowcase showed a pH of 4.5. Oversouring will cause a harshness in the fabric and this may very well result in patient rashes. I suggest you contact your supplier as his field chemist will be able to figure out the proper quantities of supplies for your washing formula.

Q. Our hotel operates its own laundry, and we've been using liquid sodium hypochlorite which is very expensive. We would like to know if the powdered bleach would be just as effective and what product you recommend to give the least amount of wear to our linens.—H. M., Miami Beach, Fla.

A. Calcium hypochlorite bleaches have been on the market in dry powder form for many years. Recently organic dry bleaches have been developed which are compatible with soap. They have the following advantages over liquid bleaches:

1. They are easier to use since powder can be added directly to the wheel.
2. There is less tensile strength loss due to properly spaced release of the chlorine activity over the full bleaching period. The chlorine of dry bleach does not hit the fabric with the sudden impact that liquid sodium hypochlorite does. Overbleaching or using the liquid bleach not properly diluted will harm the fabric while organic bleach in powder form will not cause any injury. To prove this simply take two pails of water, one containing liquid bleach, the other organic dry bleach, leave a napkin in each overnight and see what has happened by morning.
3. The pulverized organic bleaches have great stability when stored even for long periods whereas liquid bleaches lose their chlorine content rapidly.
4. The organic dry bleaches contain, among other ingredients, complex phosphates for the prevention of lime soap formation.

The use of dry bleach will raise your washroom supply costs, but it will reduce linen replacement expense. Your linens also will look much better. □

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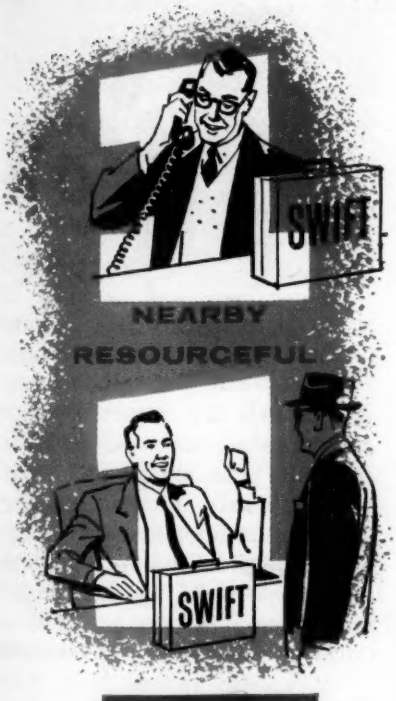

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Your Swift man draws on experience that covers over half a century of soap making and *in-plant* experience in supplying laundry needs. That's why there's a Swift's Soap or Detergent to match the type of soil you're chasing and one to match your water and temperature requirements, too. Swift & Company Soap Dept., 4115 Packers Ave., Chicago 9, Illinois.

Ask your Swift's soap man about FLEXO —for sparkling clean clothes.

FLEXO. Swift's Flexo combines a thorough wash job with the efficiency of a soap you can use throughout the wash. It's a complete soap that will give a proper pH from the start to the finish of the wash cycle.

SWIFT'S COLD WATER SOAP. Excellent for soil removal from light colors, fugitive colors, rayons, and woolens or other low temperature washing. Brings out excellent whiteness in background of printed fabrics.

WHITE RIBBON (Chips or Powder) are neutral soaps, for those who prefer to build their own formulas. They are made from the finest tallow and are recommended for higher temperature washing.

SOLAR DETERGENTS. Several readily soluble white, and free-flowing detergents are available. Designed to work in hard or soft, hot or cold water, Swift's detergents can be depended upon for general washing and for laundering delicate fabrics.

ONE TRIAL IS BETTER THAN A THOUSAND CLAIMS

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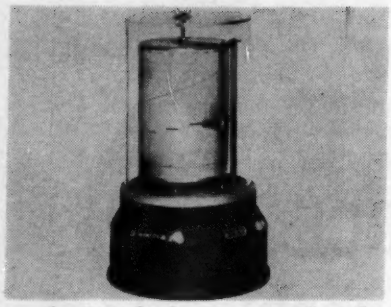
Products Parade

continued from page 10

and idle or "down" time, of the equipment. During productive time, the graphic line the device makes, climbs upward, during non-productive time it becomes instantly horizontal. The line is continuously readable. In one laundry the efficiency recorder spotted overlong wash cycles the



wash crew had set up to give the impression of being overworked and also so they would have fewer loads to handle each day. The company claims the recorder can be used with presses, marking machines, tumblers, flatwork ironers, etc.

CIRCLE 59 ON READERS INQUIRY CARD

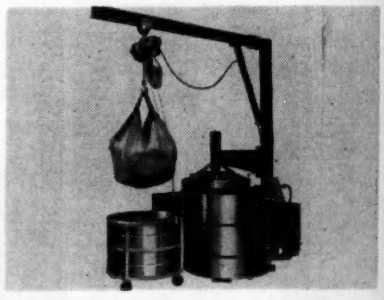
Thermoplastic Mending Tape

The *Lucas Products Corp.* is marketing a thermoplastic-type mending tape, called Iron-On, which the firm claims mends torn material nearly invisibly without sewing. The plastic-reinforced material comes in three inch by 72 inch rolls and can be pressed on torn materials with a hot iron. Iron-On has received A.I.L.'s certified washable seal and will not wash off after repeated launderings or autoclaving. It is available in 11 colors.

CIRCLE 60 ON READERS INQUIRY CARD

Hydraulic Extractor

A new deluxe Extraulic hydraulic extractor is being marketed by the *American Lndry. Machy. Co.* Certified with ASME



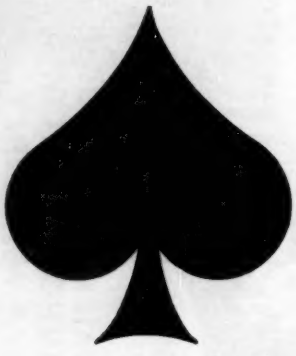
approval for 400 P.S.I. working pressure to provide thorough water removal, the extractor has 200 pounds dry weight capacity and can handle up to seven loads an hour. The extractor can be installed easily and economically in minimum floor space. Because there is no vibration when the machine is working, no special foundation is needed.

CIRCLE 61 ON READERS INQUIRY CARD

Direct-Feed Spreader

The *D. F. S. Laundry Machine Co.* has come out with a direct-feed spreader for the flatwork ironer. This consists of a series of spirally wound rolls that pull sheets and other pieces backwards at the same time they're

There is Only One ACE OF SPADES in bridge



and there is Only One R/M REVOLITE®

world's outstanding line of LAUNDRY PADS AND COVERS

Economy-minded managers of institutional and commercial laundries regard Raybestos-Manhattan REVOLITE Covers as the standard semipermanent covers of the industry. They buy them because they turn out far better work at lower cost—and last far longer—than ordinary synthetic, asbestos or cotton products.

R/M REVOLITE Pads of felted asbestos are entirely different from ordinary knitted cotton, asbestos or synthetic fiber padding and they are made for the higher heat retention of REVOLITE covers—have equally long life, providing a highly resilient cushion for good ironing all the way.

Double-Barreled Savings. Proved economies up to 43% are possible with long-lasting REVOLITE. To this add big savings in changeover labor costs and also the fact that there are far fewer stoppages because REVOLITE functions efficiently at higher temperatures, higher ironing speeds. Add savings in power, too.

REVOLITE Laundry Pads and Covers are made—and guaranteed—by America's biggest producer of fine asbestos textiles. Get in touch with us today for convincing proof that you should have switched to R/M REVOLITE long ago!

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RAYBESTOS-MANHATTAN, INC., Laundry Pads and Covers • Asbestos Textiles Engineered Plastics • Mechanical Packings • Sintered Metal Products • Industrial Rubber • Rubber Covered Equipment • Abrasive and Diamond Wheels • Brake Linings • Brake Blocks • Clutch Facings • Industrial Adhesives • Bowling Balls

Circle No. 34 on Post Card

being pulled forward into the ironer. The result is to smooth or spread the work, exactly as if two people were to stretch out a sheet by pulling on it from opposite ends. The device eliminates hand shaking and the LM who devised it claims that it increased production by 25 per cent using two less girls. It may be installed on any make flatwork ironer and requires no extra floor space.

CIRCLE 62 ON READERS INQUIRY CARD

Stripping and Guide Device

The *Zeidler Mfg. Co.* features a stripping and guide device that is said to boost production by eliminating the need for daily restringing and changing of tapes. Finishing is said to be improved because rolls can be set for correct contact pressure. Heat-proof steel bands, at staggered intervals, provide continuous stripping without downtime. The device is said to be easily installed.

CIRCLE 63 ON READERS INQUIRY CARD

New Starch

The *A. E. Staley Mfg. Co.* has introduced a new laundry starch, called "Sta-Flex." Among properties attributed to it by the company are greater film clarity for color brightness, thorough penetration and non-congealing qualities that reduce highlights, smears and surface starch. Of neutral pH, "Sta-Flex's," compatibility with water in any area avoids discoloring and spotting.

CIRCLE 64 ON READERS INQUIRY CARD

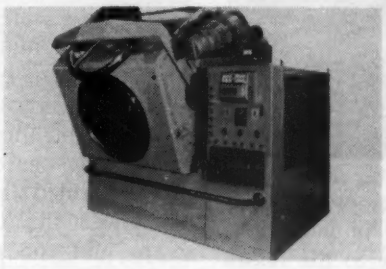
Fiberglass Hamper

A durable, rigid fiberglass hamper made by the *M & L Supply Co.* is now available for institutional laundry use. The hamper is said to be fireproof, shatterproof and mildewproof. It weighs seven pounds, comes in either blue or green and its hard, smooth finish makes it easy to keep clean.

CIRCLE 65 ON READERS INQUIRY CARD

Push-button Washer

A completely new, automatic, push-button washer has been announced by the *T. L. Smith Co.* The 400-pound capacity machine runs an automatic six step wash-



ing cycle providing filtered recircualtion and automatic temperature control. The machine features a tilting drum for fast overhead loading, a basket of shell-less design, a 60-inch drum providing a bigger drop, a complete light-soil washing cycle every 28 minutes, etc. The company offers a choice of open pocket or divided basket. □

CIRCLE 66 ON READERS INQUIRY CARD

For products that save time, money and labor, read this page, then circle the appropriate readers inquiry numbers on the postcard.

You produce faster . . .
Your linens are softer . . .
Your linens last longer . . .

with

LUMAR

in the LAUNDRY

THE FAMOUS FABRIC SOFTENER IN POWDER FORM—NEEDS NO MIXING—READY TO USE

- It increases production of flat work, uniforms and shirts because of fewer wrinkles and faster shakeout.
- It keeps blankets and spreads that are sometimes washed daily as soft as new.
- It makes all linens last much longer.
- It cuts extraction and drying time.
- It stops rolling on the ironer.
- It prevents tailband sticking.
- It prevents starch buildup on heads of presses.
- Use only 1½ oz. of LUMAR per hundred weight dry clothes.

Ask your laundry supply distributor regarding

MARLYN CHEMICAL CO., INC.
LAKEVIEW, OHIO

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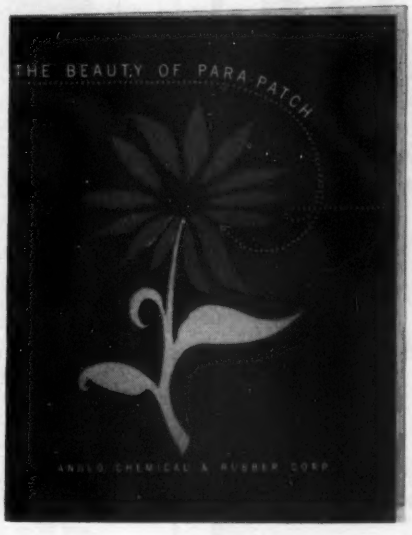
ASK FOR THIS FREE BROCHURE ABOUT

REDUCING MENDING COSTS



This informative brochure tells:

- How to reduce mending costs with the Para-Patch system.
- How to make Permanent repairs and get more service from each garment or linen.
- The economy, quality, and adaptability of this system.

Has information on other uses:

- Color coded identification systems.
- Colored marking tapes.
- Numbered code patches for inventory, assorting, marking and replacement problems.
- Heat seal printed names, titles and emblems.

We'll be happy to send you a free copy. Just ask for "The Beauty of Para-Patch."

ANGLO CHEMICAL & RUBBER CORP.
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Circle No. 4 on Post Card

Genius at work

Preventing Pilferage of Hampers

Like most laundries we have the problem of overcoming pilferage on hampers full of laundered linens that cannot be sent immediately to the floors and emptied into linen closets. However, we use a simple device that seems to have as much psychological effect as actual protective force. We always keep a supply of copper wire and small lead seals on hand. The wire can be cut very easily with a pair of bandage scissors. We cut a short length of the wire, run it through the hole in the lead seal, stamp the seal with a punch that marks it with our hospital initials then twine the wire around the loops and hasps of the hamper. While these seals could be removed easily and the hamper opened, apparently the mere sight of the sealing discourages would-be pilferers. No matter how long the hampers have remained full and otherwise unguarded we have had no loss whatsoever, since using this method.—Edward Piper, LM, Temple University Hospital, Philadelphia, Pa.

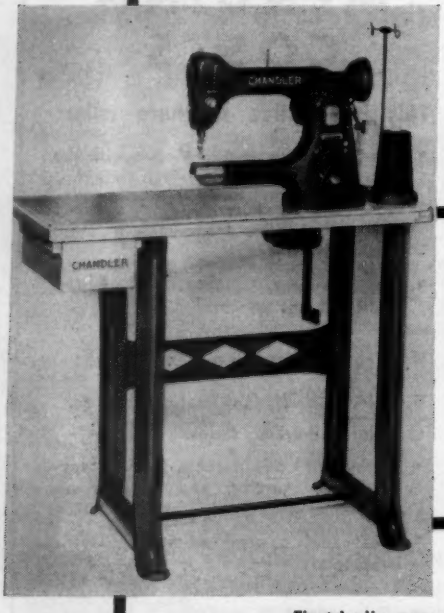
Two-Step-In-One Saves Time

All our soiled linen is weighed before being loaded into the washers. Rather than unloading the soiled linen from the basket on the scale into another basket or a cart and rolling it to our washers, we have figured out a way to eliminate that step. The conveyor that runs from our washers to our unloading extractor is located directly above the scale. What we did then was simply put two leather straps around the basket on the scale. When we want to get the soiled linen from the scale to the washers we lower the conveyor hook, catch the leather straps and run the basket to the washers. In the course of a day this saves us considerable time and manpower.—Francis R. Binette, LM, Bangor State Hospital, Bangor, Me.

Making the Press Padding Last

We always had trouble fastening the padding securely on our mushroom press, particularly the new rubber pads. Steam always escaped around the edges and would go inside a garment, removing the press from parts already done. The regular spring clamps would pull down the center of the pad. To correct this, we ran a wire around the outside and

DARN IT!



An all purpose mending unit for repairing

Shirts • Socks
Towels • Coats
Aprons • Linens
and
Laundry Nets

Electrically operated
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new...

LUDELL "DO IT YOURSELF" HEAT RECOVERY KIT FOR THE SMALL LAUNDRY

RETURNS ITS COST EVERY 2 YEARS!

- Specially engineered for laundries using as little as 800 GPH to 3,000 GPH total water.
- SAVES ⅓ OF YOUR FUEL BILL.
- INCREASES BOILER CAPACITY 35%.
- No costly waste water pit is needed.
- EASILY INSTALLED. Kit is complete with prefabricated steel sump and other necessary components.

WRITE TODAY — get the facts on this low cost Bready System of Waste Water Heat Recovery!

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Representatives in the United States, Canada, Alaska
MANUFACTURERS OF BREADY SYSTEMS OF HEAT RECOVERY • BREADY SYSTEMS OF HOT WATER HEATING • WHEELER SELF-UNLOADING WASHER.

Circle No. 23 on Post Card

tightened the wire with a pair of pliers. Now all steam must go up through the padding. Parts of the garments which have been pressed, stay dry, and the padding lasts much longer. R.L., Baltimore, Md.

Timer on the Extractor Solves Problem

We always had trouble with getting the timing right on our extractor cycle. Frequently, we ran a load longer than necessary and often we didn't run it long enough so that the linens came out too wet. To take care of this we installed a regular clock-type timer on the extractor. Now we know exactly how long a load should run and can set the timer accordingly. This has completely solved the problem.—James F. Lower, LM, Burlington Hospital, Burlington, Ia.

Handy, Inexpensive Heater

An excellent source for safe, concentrated heat is a 250 watt "heat" light bulb which can be bought for about a dollar. After putting the bulb in a ceiling socket and letting it warm up, it can then be set under transmissions and its heat quickly thins oil congealed by low temperatures. We find this method invaluable for use in our washer-extractor transmission, especially after a cold weekend, though, of course, it can be used with any piece of equipment. The bulb, incidentally, though it will not last as long as the average incandescent lamp, is still good for many, many hours.—J.C., LM, Gary, Indiana

Grease Cartridge for Grease Guns

For those LMs who don't like to fill their grease guns, an oil company has provided an alternative that they may find very agreeable. The company markets a grease cartridge that can be slipped into the gun without any muss, fuss or bother whatsoever. The cartridges require a special gun, but my local filling station operator traded guns with me for only $1.50 difference. The cartridges cost 35 cents each and contain 14½ ounces of grease.—L.W., LM, Chicago, Ill.

A Simple Twine Holder

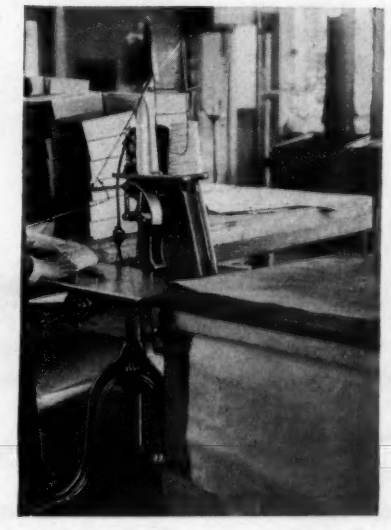
We put number 8 twine on our flatwork ironer with the aid of a cone holder made of a piece of two by four studding. These contain dowels which have been set apart at the proper distance. This method has served us well for many years, and we expect it will continue to do so.—Ben R. Hill, LM, Glendale Sanitarium and Hospital, Glendale, California.

You as well as others can profit from your brain-storms. Payment is $5 for ideas, $5 for accompanying suitable illustrations. Write to "Genius at Work," Institutional Laundry, 10 East 40th Street, N. Y. 16, N. Y.

TIE LAUNDRY

The "SAXMAYER" Way

for speed and economy



- Especially suited for bundling unit packages for hospitals, hotels, etc.
- Ties all sizes with a nonslip bow knot for each wrap of twine.
- Self adjusting to all sizes of bundles.

All Models Guaranteed on a Trial Basis

Literature on Request

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BIG BERTHA
RUGGED • RELIABLE • FAST
LINT DRAWER
HOYT'S Giant Tumbler
BIG 115 lb. dry
EASILY UNLOADED Basket 54" x 30½" (arm deep)
Steam or gas heated models, all sizes. Write
HOYT DRYERS
HOYT MANUFACTURING CORP.
30 FORGE ROAD, WESTPORT, MASSACHUSETTS

Circle No. 15 on Post Card

Free Literature

(Circle appropriate key numbers on Readers Service Card for your free copies. ★Starred items denote new arrivals just off the press.)

Washing Equipment

Extractor. Pinnacle Products. A description and specifications on the company's new 36-inch Broadbent extractor with a capacity of 500 to 600 pounds (dry weight) per hour. Features such as automatic timer, interlocked safety cover, etc., are illustrated.
CIRCLE 70 ON READERS INQUIRY CARD

Open End Washer. Cook Machy. Co., Inc. Illustrations and specifications concerning this open end washer available in capacities from 25 to 100 pounds. One dial control permits use of 28 separate wash cycles.
CIRCLE 71 ON READERS INQUIRY CARD

Dryer. Hoyt Mfg. Corp. Illustrated descriptions of the firm's line of dryers. Specifications are included.
CIRCLE 72 ON READERS INQUIRY CARD

Washing Supplies

Water Softener. Softener Corporation of America. Catalog of the company's water softening equipment with specifications, features, prices and illustrations included.
CIRCLE 73 ON READERS INQUIRY CARD

Soap. Lever Brothers Co. A description of the company's "Lever Combo," said to permit more cold water rinses than other products, resulting in considerable fuel and water savings.
CIRCLE 74 ON READERS INQUIRY CARD

Accelerated Formula. Beach Soap Co. This lively cartoon-illustrated 16-page booklet describes a new way to wash, which, says Beach, gives you two more washes a day per machine. Formula specifications are given and a listing of other company products with a brief identifying sentence.
CIRCLE 75 ON READERS INQUIRY CARD

Finishing Supplies

Textile Line. Callaway Mills, Inc. Description and pictures of the firm's complete line of textiles for the cleaning/laundry field from apron ducks to steel wool padding.
CIRCLE 76 ON READERS INQUIRY CARD

★Stripping and Guide Device. Zeidler Mfg. Co. Inc. Information about a new device that eliminates the necessity for daily restringing and changing of tapes. Finishing is finer because rolls can be set for correct contact pressure.
CIRCLE 77 ON READERS INQUIRY CARD

Miscellaneous Supplies. Southern Mills, Inc. A complete description with illustrations of the company's line of covers and flannels, feed ribbons, baskets, nets, etc.
CIRCLE 78 ON READERS INQUIRY CARD

Materials Handling

Self-closing ropeless bags. The Hartford Co. Illustrations giving uses of these ropeless, tapeless, grommetless bags whose full flap seals in all linens. Said to save time of workers and to cut repair costs.
CIRCLE 79 ON READERS INQUIRY CARD

Miscellaneous

Question and Answer Sheet. Philadelphia Quartz Co. A data sheet that answers the question — "How May Linen be Dyed in the Washwheel?" Info for preparing both new and used linen for dyeing. Both direct and vat dyeing are covered.
CIRCLE 80 ON READERS INQUIRY CARD

For a bagful of production aids, consult Free Literature items. They have helped others to lower costs. To get them, circle numbers on Post Card.

Washette by Cook
AMERICA'S LEADING OPEN-END WASHER

- HEAVY-DUTY STAINLESS STEEL CONSTRUCTION
- DEPENDABLE LOW COST PRODUCTION

CHECK THESE FAMOUS WASHETTE FEATURES!

★ Dodge Friction-Free Power Transmission — 2 Year Warranty!
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★ Famous One-Dial Control, 28 Formulae
★ Water-Gard deletes fill and drain time for formula sequence.
★ Easy to Operate — requires minimum maintenance.
★ Orders shipped in 48 hours on all standard electric models.

- EXTRACTORS
- WASHERS
- TUMBLERS

The ONLY complete line of open end-washers, Cabinet and Pedestal styles, 25, 50, 75 and 100 lb. capacities; Controls: Manual, Semi-Automatic, Automatic; Automatic available with supply injector.

Write for complete information and FREE brochures.

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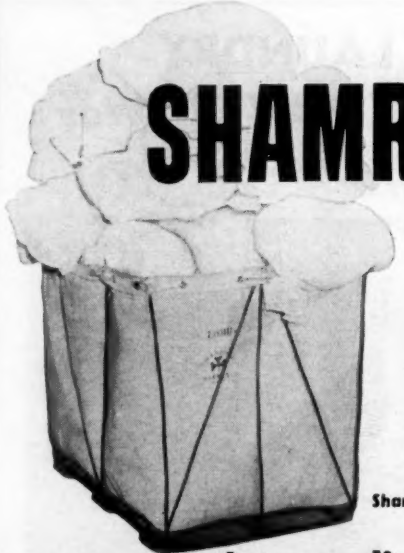
SHAMROCKS



built for LONG WEAR

Shamrock No. 22 Truck

compare these quality features

Extra Heavy Canvas Duck | Frame anchored to bottom | Sash cord binds body to Frame

SEE YOUR SHAMROCK JOBBER FOR FACTS AND PRICES!

MEESE, INC., MADISON, IND.

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". . . almost every hotel in the country has space for a laundry."

continued from page 43

thing left over."

Since putting in the laundry, the Woodner has noticed a huge reduction in costs. The expense of processing linen has dropped to about 50 per cent of what it used to be. Equally important, of course, is that when an emergency comes up and the housekeeper cries for linen she can get it in short order. The quality of the work is also better than it used to be.

"But the main point this laundry proves," insists Bleicher, "is that you can always find space if you really want to. This area was not used before. I imagine most of the people working at the Woodner had even forgotten it existed. Now it suddenly has become immensely productive and is saving the organization considerable money and a lot of headaches.

"Most hotels who don't have or who give up their laundries say one of the reasons is that if the space used for the laundry were instead made into rooms, the profits are much greater. But this space at the Woodner could never have been utilized for guest rooms. And I bet I can walk into any hotel in the country that doesn't have a laundry and find a similar situation." □

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MEND IT BETTER

with IRON•ON FABRIC

★ Reduces Labor Costs
★ Outwears the Original Fabric
★ Won't come off in repeated laundering
★ 11 COLORS — all SUN-FAST and TUB-FAST
★ Handy Dispenser Package holds 3" x 72" roll

ORDER TODAY from your jobber or write for details!

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TOLEDO 12, OHIO
manufacturers of
iron•on TEXTILE PRODUCTS

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Best..for Smoother Pressing!

PADCRAFT METAL BASE PAD

Consisting of a steel wool core, covered with a one-piece knitted mesh covering provides smooth, unrivalled pressing—assures long-lasting economical wear.

The TOPCRAFT

Layers of rust-resistant metal mesh with 2-ply asbestos cover, TOPCRAFT eliminates the endless, troublesome changing of flannel. It's the answer to the launderer's topper needs!

Contact your supplier or write direct to

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HENRICI HT-2 CONTROL offers savings in water, time & supplies

- Controls four water levels and three controlled temperatures.
- Will open cold water valve, hot water valve or both hot and cold together; will also open steam valve, drain & signal—and as an *extra* will stop and start washing machine motor.

Ask for Free Data & Low Costs

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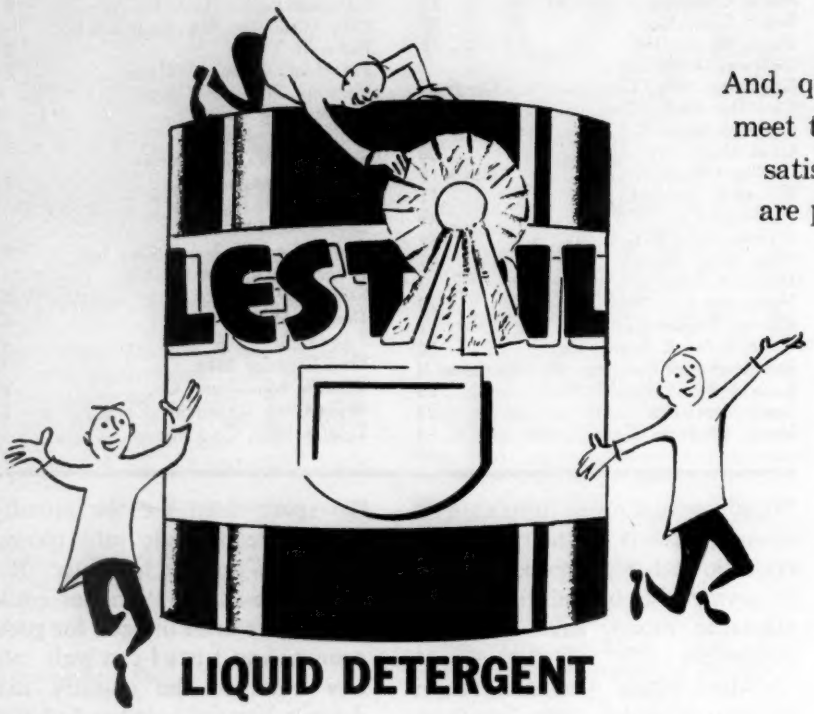
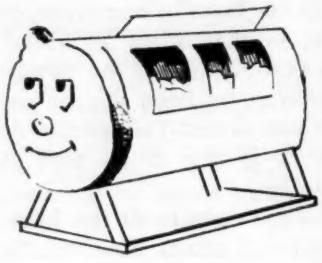
LESTOIL LAUNDERING IS Quality LAUNDERING



And, quality laundering helps you meet today's competition by keeping satisfied customers, the kind that are profitable repeat business.



LIQUID DETERGENT

REASONS why **LESTOIL** is a **MUST** with every laundry that aspires to produce quality laundering.

LESTOIL:

Penetrates
Dissolves
Disperses
Removes

ALL **PERSPIRATION SOIL** from collars, cuffs and body clothes.
KITCHEN GREASE from dish towels, table linens, and house dresses.
IMBEDDED SOIL AND OIL from work and play clothes.

Completely eliminates lime soap accumulations in wash wheels and fabrics.

METHOD ONLY 5 ounces of **LESTOIL** to each 100 lb. wheel capacity needed in the break (in addition to soap and alkali).

RESULTS ▶ **WHITES ARE WHITER** ▶ **COLORS ARE BRIGHTER**
▶ **MATERIALS ARE SOFTER** ▶ **LIFE OF FABRICS AND NETS LENGTHENED**

Try **LESTOIL** in your laundry for the kind of finished work you'll be proud of — Send for technical information and a generous free sample — today!

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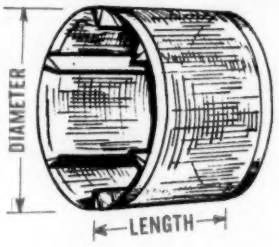
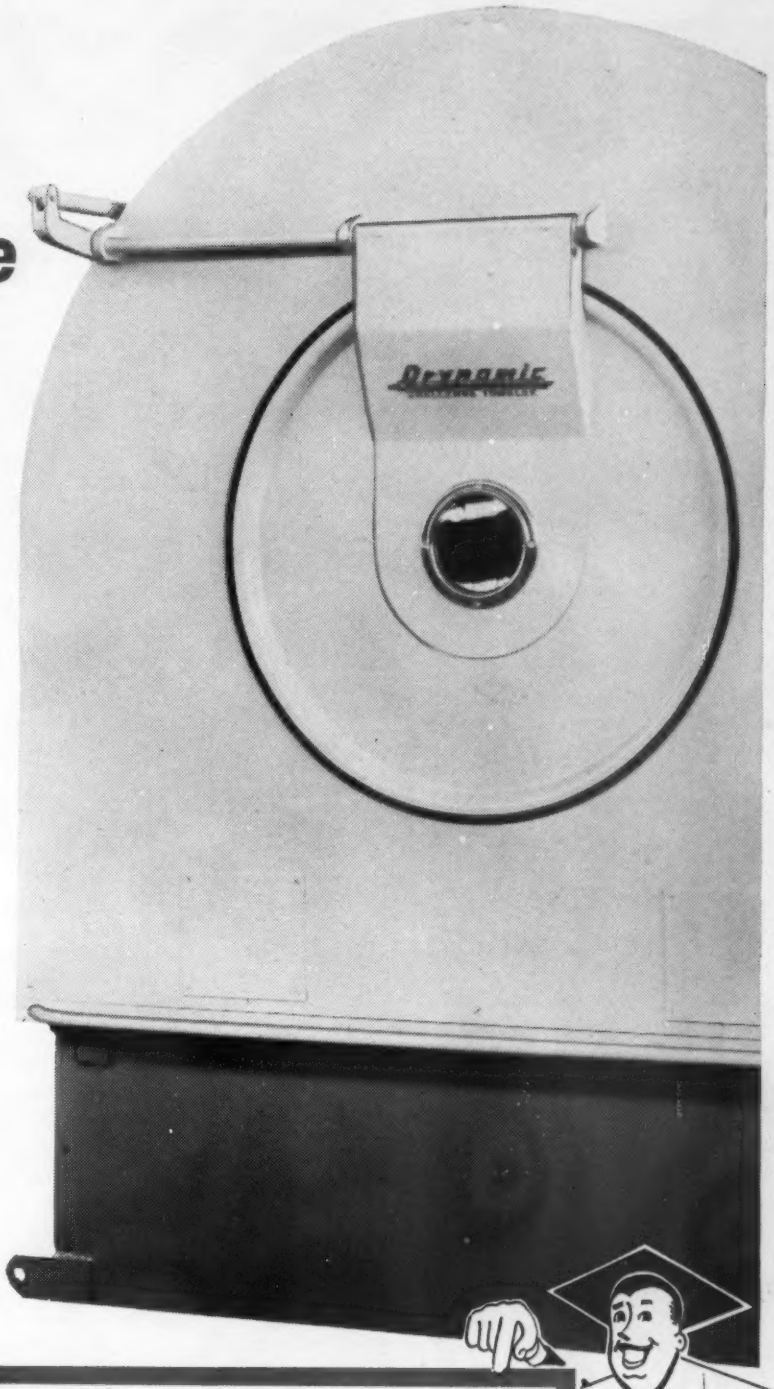
"Compare The Cubic Volume of The Tumbler Basket,

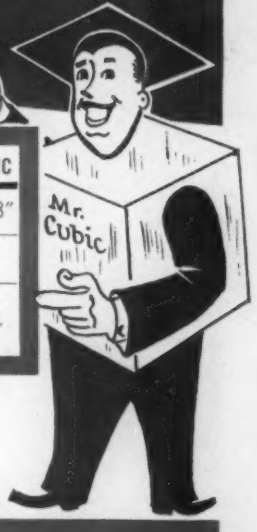
. . It Makes A Tremendous Difference In The Drying and Conditioning Efficiency of Your Tumbler"



In commercial tumblers, 1 cubic foot of drum volume is required for every 2 pounds of material in order to full dry a 200# (dry weight) load. The smaller the "cubics" (cubic feet of basket area), the longer the drying time. Before you buy, make a thorough comparison of the tumbler basket dimensions. For your convenience, we are listing below, the cubic foot volume and actual capacity of several tumblers, each of which claim 200# dry weight capacity.



TUMBLER BASKET	R	N	H	DRYNAMIC
Dimensions	60" x 42"	60" x 44"	54" x 54"	66" x 48"
Cubic Feet	68.5	72	71.5	95
Actual Capacity (at 2# per cu. ft.)	137 lbs.	144 lbs.	143 lbs.	190 lbs.



See your American Laundry Machinery Man for details and specifications of the Drynamic Challenge Tumbler.

Distributed Exclusively By: The American Laundry Machinery Co.

CHALLENGE MANUFACTURING CO.

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but Gentle
that's Cowles
ESCOLITE
SAVES FABRICS—colloidal power cleans white—reduces bleaching!
SAVES TIME—dissolves in seconds!
SAVES LABOR—easy to use: Dry or in solution, Alone or with soap!
DOES THE JOB on all classifications!
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